CENSUS OF INDIA 1981

A PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

SIKKIM

SERIES-19

Preliminary Draft

LAKPA TAMANG
Statistical Assistant

Edited by

M M. SINGH, M.A. (Econ.)
Deputy Director of Census Operations, Sikkim

CONTENTS

		Pages
Foreword		iii—iv
Preface		v—vi
Chapter I	Introduction	1—6
Chapter II	How many are We ?	7—19
Chapter III	Village and Town dwellers	20—31
Chapter IV	Are the number of men and women balanced ?	32—42
Chapter V	How many of us can read and write ?	43—57
Chapter VI	Languages spoken	58—60
Chapter VII	Religion	62—69
Chapter VIII	Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	70—78
Chapter IX	How many of us Work ?	79—93
Chapter X	Fertility	94—107
Chapter XI	Movement of people	108—128
Chapter XII	Summary	129—132

FOREWORD

The Indian Census is now more than hundred years of age. Synchronous decennial Censuses have been taken in an unbroken sequence since 1871.

Each Census has been yielding vast quantities of data concerning the various facets of the life of the people. It is only natural that over the decades the sweep as well as the depth of the information yielded by the Census have gone on increasing. Of course, no exercise of this type and magnitude can yield all that one may desire to know in all areas of enquiry. Within this limitation, however, the data thrown up by the Census constitute, verily, a mine of information which enter into plans and programmes, debates and writings, affecting almost all walks of the life of the common Indian.

And yet, for the common reader, this information and the large number of publications carrying it, remains, by and large, a distant, uninteresting, even intimidating, corpus.

At the time of the 1971 Census was, therefore, conceived the idea of bringing the essential Census information together in handy and readable volumes with such lay and average readers and students in view. This 1981 Census series of State/UT-wise "Portrait of Population" follows up the similar 1971 Census series.

It will be realized that it is not easy to convert dry facts and statistics into flowing narration. Very few indeed can be gifted with the talent of a Jawaharlal Nehru or a C. Rajagopalachari or a Hendrikvan Loon or an Minoo Masani for writing about history or mythology or economics in an absorbing, story-telling style. It has also to be appreciated that my colleagues have undertaken this work in the midst of a very mundane and busy office routine.

I thank them and all those who have collaborated with them in this project and hope that these volumes will serve their intended purpose. The credit for getting the 1981 Census

conducted and for getting all the data garnered and put through the initial processing in the first instance goes, of course, to my illustrious predecessor, Shri P. Padmanabha and the very able band of Directors of Census Operations for that Census.

VIJAY S. VERMA
Registrar General and
Census Commissioner, India.

NEW DELHI
July 4, 1988.

PREFACE

One of the novel features of the Census Publications is the attempt to bring out the present volume to cater to the growing need for the basic data collected during 1981 Census. Indian Census is a mine of informations. But the general readers including students hardly derive any benefit from the forbiddingly voluminous census reports and tables. It is with a view to catering for this group of readers that this small volume 'A portrait of population' has been prepared. It has been written in a simple and non-technical language.

It was late Shri A. Chandra Sekhar, former Registrar General & Census Commissioner of 1971 Census who first gave an idea of bringing out 'Portrait of Population' for each State/UT at the time of 1971 Census. Encouraged by the response of general readers to that publication it has been desired by Shri V. S. Verma, Registrar General, India to revive this publication at the 1981 Census also.

The Director of Census Operations, Shri J. K. Thapa, I.A.S. under whose guidance the entire operations were carried out deserves all credit for the success of the operations. But he had to leave the Organisation for taking up important assignment before the volume in question could be made ready for the press. I must record my deepest sense of gratitude to Shri P. Padmanabha, Ex-Registrar General, India and Shri V. S. Verma, Registrar General, India for their valuable guidance and sincere help to us at every stage to bring out this publication in time. I also thank the officers and staff of the Data Processing Division, Census Division and Printing Division of the Office of the Registrar General, India associated with this task. The processing of data was undertaken by the Data Processing Division of the Registrar General's Office under the able guidance of S/Shri A. Sen Gupta, Joint Director (Data Processing) and K. B. Unni, Joint Director (Programming) with the help of their staff.

I thank Shri N. Rama Rao, Assistant Registrar General (C&T) and his colleagues S/Shri R. P. Tomar and V. P.

Rustagi, Deputy Directors and Babulal, Assistant Director who have taken great pains to go through the draft and suggested modifications in the write-up.

I am also grateful to my office staff who have laboured hard to bring out this publication, particularly Shri Lakpa Tamang, Statistical Assistant who has done his best to prepare the preliminary draft. The tables and statements contained in this publication were prepared by Shri Rajendra Kumar Sonkar, Assistant Compiler. The charts, diagrams, maps etc. were prepared by Shri H. S. P. Gupta, Draftsman. The cover was designed by Shri M. K. Darjee, S. A. The brunt of typing the manuscript and tables fell on the shoulders of S/Shri Biplob Roy and Pushkar Kumar Thapa, Lower Division Clerks. I express my gratitude to all of them and to many others who gave me unstinted cooperation in this venture.

M. M. SINGH

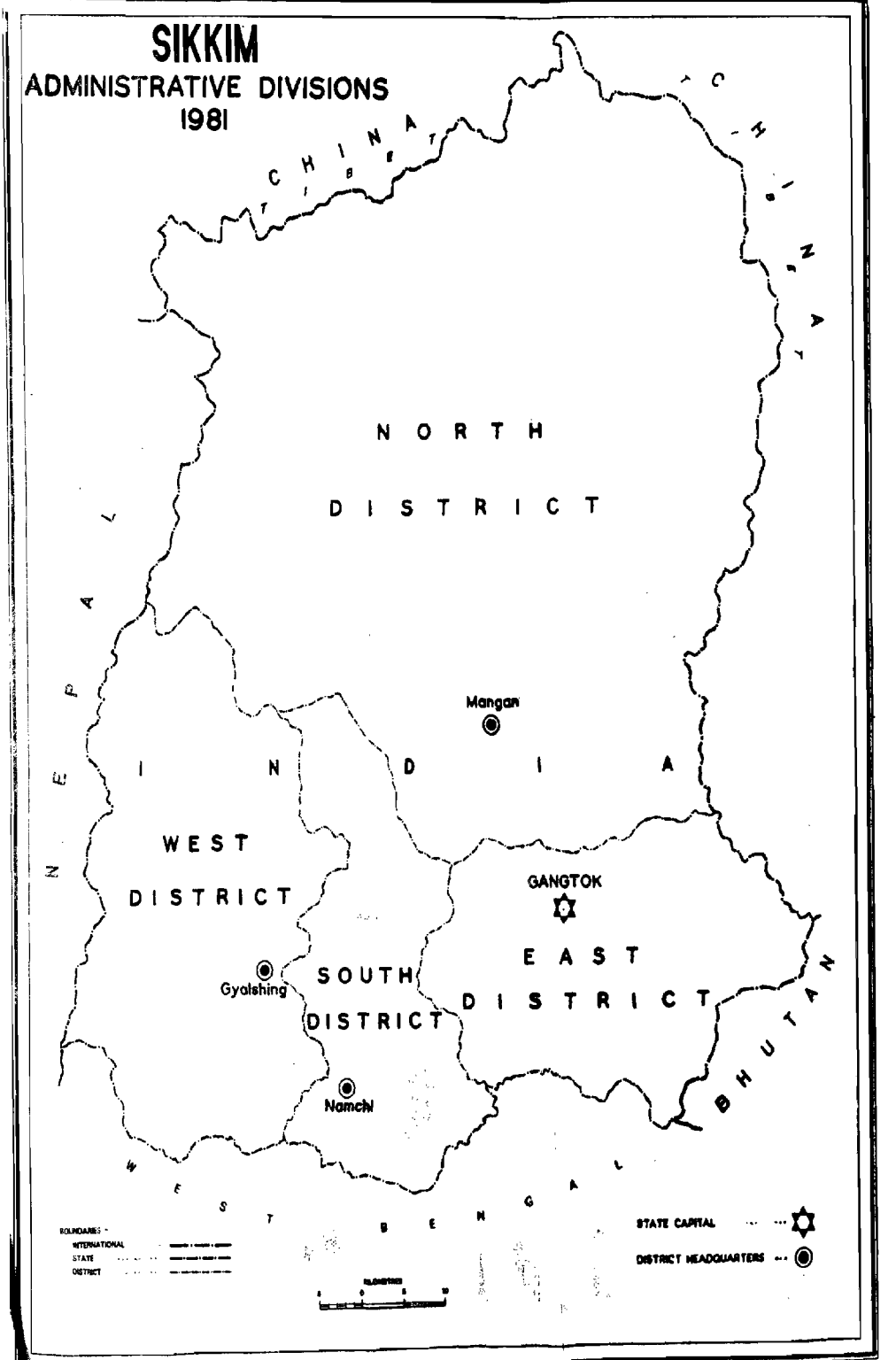
GANGTOK
27th July, 1988

Deputy Director of Census Operations, Sikkim.

MAP NO. 1

POSITION OF SIKKIM
IN INDIA, 1981
Boundary, International
Boundary, State/Union Territory
Capital of India
Capital of State/Union Territory
Kilometres
100 0 100 200 300 400
AFGHANISTAN
PAKISTAN
JAMMU AND KASHMIR
Srinagar
HIMACHAL PRADESH
Shimla
PUNJAB
Chandigarh
CHANDIGARH
HARYANA
DELHI
Delhi
Jaipur
RAJASTHAN
UTTAR PRADESH
Lucknow
CHINA
NEPAL
SIKKIM
Gangtok
BHUTAN
Thimphu
ARUNACHAL PRADESH
ASSAM
NAGALAND
Dispur
Kohima
Shillong
MEGHALAYA
Imphal
MANIPUR
Patna
BIHAR
BANGLADESH
TRIPURA
Agartala
Aizawl
MIZORAM
Gandhinagar
GUJARAT
Bhopal
MADHYA PRADESH
INDIA
WEST BENGAL
Calcutta
New Moore I. (INDIA)
BURMA
G. D. & D.
DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI
Silvassa
MAHARASHTRA
Greater Bombay
ORISSA
Bhubaneswar
BAY OF BENGAL
ARABIAN SEA
Hyderabad
ANDHRA PRADESH
KARNATAKA
Panaji
GOA, DAMAN & DIU
The administrative headquarters of Chandigarh, Haryana and Punjab are at Chandigarh.
LAKSHADWEEP (INDIA)
Kavaratti I.
LAKSHADWEEP SEA
Bangalore
Madras
Pondicherry
PONDICHERRY
TAMIL NADU
KERALA
G. D. & D. GOA, DAMAN & DIU
P PONDICHERRY
ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS (INDIA)
Port Blair
ANDAMAN SEA
Trivandrum
SRI LANKA
INDIAN OCEAN
72° East of Greenwich
INDIRA POINT

MAP NO. 2


SIKKIM
ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS
1981
CHINA
TIBET
NEPAL
INDIA
BHUTAN
WEST BENGAL
NORTH DISTRICT
WEST DISTRICT
SOUTH DISTRICT
EAST DISTRICT
Mangan
GANGTOK
Gyalshing
Namchi
BOUNDARIES -
INTERNATIONAL
STATE
DISTRICT
STATE CAPITAL
DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Brief reference to the state and its location

Sandwiched between Nepal on the West, Bhutan on the East, Darjeeling district of West Bengal on the South and Tibetan plateau on the North, Sikkim is a small Himalayan state within Indian Union and has an area of 7,096 square kilometres. It lies between 27° to 28° North latitude and 88° to 89° East longitude. Being a part of inner ranges of mountains of the Himalayas, Sikkim is wholly a hilly state having varied elevation ranging from 300 to 5,500 metres above sea level.

The region is subjected to a heavy rainfall. There is high degree of variation in climate and vegetation which ranges from sub-tropical to alpine, owing to its physical features. The mean annual rainfall varies from 2,000 mm to 5,000 mm with intensity of raining from drizzling shower to torrential rains. The greater part of rain is received between May to September.

The temperature varies with altitude. The trend of decrease in temperature with increase in altitude holds good everywhere. The maximum temperature is usually recorded during July-August and minimum during December-January.

No authentic records of early history of Sikkim are available though efforts have been made from time to time to piece together some coherent account of its history from Limbu chronicles and Lepcha folklores and legends, Tibetans texts and traditions. Most of the Tibetan accounts available are dated from the establishment of Namgyal Dynasty and are steeped in allegories and prophecies.

There is evidence indicating that during some times before the Limbu rule and advent of Tibetans, the kingdom was under the sway of an Indian king Chandrapalla. His

dynasty apparently had taken no interest in this wild and unproductive state. The kingdom was then called Vijoy Pur Sikkim.

After establishment of Namgyal dynasty, Phuntshog Namgyal was the first consecrated ruler, a decendant of Khe-Bum-Sa who had formed blood brotherhood with Lepcha chief Thakang Thek, a Centralized authority was set up in Sikkim for the first time. The Limbu chiefs who were then ruling most of the areas accepted Namgyal's sovereignty. The kingdom was then extended far beyond its present frontiers. In the North it extended up to Thang La, near Phari in Tibet, in East up to Tagong La near Paro in Bhutan, in South Kishangunj in Purnia district in Bihar and in West to Timar Chorten on Tamar river in Nepal.

The tripartite agreement signed on May 8, 1973 between the Government of India, the Chogyal and the political parties became the forerunner to the establishment of a fully responsible government for which the people had been agitating.

The 32 member assembly elected under the agreement passed the Sikkim Act, 1974 and Sikkim became an associate state.

On 10th April, 1975, the Sikkim Assembly passed a resolution that the institution of Chogyal is hereby abolished and Sikkim shall hence-forth be a constituent unit of India and enjoying democratic and fully responsible government. It was further resolved to hold a referendum to submit the resolution to the people by way of a 'special poll' for their approval three days later.

On 26th April, 1975, Sikkim became the 22nd state of Indian Union. The formal merger took place on 16th May, 1975.

Up to 1961 there was no separate district as such in Sikkim. Sometime in 1963, through a notification, Government of Sikkim divided the whole state into four districts for administrative purpose and accordingly, Namchi was reconstituted into Gyalshing district and Namchi district and similarly Gangtok was split up as Gangtok district and Mangan district. Sikkim's census population figures were shown for two units (Gangtok

and Namchi) in 1951 and for three units (Mangan, Gangtok and Namchi) in 1961 in the census publications of West Bengal.

Historically, the Census in Sikkim was done as early as 1891 by the then political officer in Sikkim. Thereafter, Census in Sikkim was conducted under the guidance of West Bengal Census authorities since 1901. So far Sikkim is concerned, 1981 Census is the first Census that has been conducted independently after setting up of an independent Census Directorate in 1976. Separate census publications for Sikkim are being brought out after Sikkim became the 22nd state of India.

Brief mention about the 1981 Census Operations

Literally, the Word Census means an official enumeration of the inhabitants of a place at a given point of time within a defined boundary. Census is no doubt a counting of persons, yet at the same time, it is very much more than that. Counting of all persons in each area and collecting certain basic characteristics of each person such as age, sex, marital status, religion, mother tongue, literacy, economic activity, etc. are its basic objects.

Census tells us how many we are, how many are men and women, how many can read and write, how many are children and what are the occupations of our people, etc. Without such counts it is difficult to assess the requirements of food, housing, medical, educational facilities, employment needs, formation of constituency to represent the peoples' representatives etc.

No plan can fulfil the basic objective which is the welfare of the people, unless it is based on a study of population. It is therefore, said that census holds the key to planned development. Census data are indispensible not merely for planners or scholars or government, but also for commercial, industrial, non-official and political organisations down to the common man.

Census is taken once in ten years. A day or hour is fixed for census taking and all census information must relate to that time. Persons born or dead after the census reference date are not taken into account. The Census of 1981 started its

operation with effect from 9th February, 1981 throughout the country. The 1981 census count took place between the 9th February, 1981 and 28th February, 1981 both days inclusive with the sunrise of 1st March, 1981 as the reference date. The rivisional round was carried out from 1st March to 5th March, 1981. The process of house numbering and houselisting was completed well before the actual census enumeration. For 1981 census in Sikkim state, this operation was completed between 15th April to 15th May 1980, that is, about a year before the final census count. All notional maps and layout sketches were prepared during the houselisting operation. The state Government took this oppurtunity to introduce permanent house-numbering in Sikkim by allotting funds to fix the permanent numbers on tin plates.

From the experience gained in the houselisting operation, the enumerators and supervisors were re-selected and appointed for enumeration. In this respect the State Government made necessary arrangements for the availability of school teachers, even though, the census population enumeration was scheduled during the winter school holidays. To suit Sikkim conditions, the number of training classes as well as training centres was increased. In order to facilitate de-centralised training, necessary steps were taken to select trainers from suitable teachers. Directorate of census operations, Sikkim took this opportunity by deputing members of its technical staff to the field area to assist the District Census Officers and charge officers on technical matters.

To avoid over-lapping and exclusion of any part of the area, the entire state is mapped showing the details of smallest unit of enumeration, i.e. an enumerator's block. In each block map, all the houses,streets and by-lanes are shown clearly. An enumerator was appointed for census taking in each block. For every three to four contiguous blocks, there was a supervisor. Above them was a charge officer. The whole of Sikkim was divided into many charges, supervisor's circles and enumerator's blocks. Various publicity campaigns were undertaken by the All India Radio, Information and Publicity Department of the state Government, Field Publicity Officers of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India stationed at Gangtok and Jorethang as well as by the Panchayat executive members and mondols. This helped in

arousing the awareness about census in rural and urban areas from houselisting to population enumeration period.

Census of India today covers many fields of useful information. With the help of the Houselist, information has been obtained about the number of persons residing in the households, uses of houses, about the physically handicapped persons and enterprises. The individual slips which comprises the basic questionnaire, in addition to giving the total number of individuals comprising the population by males and females as it stood on the census reference date has brought to surface a mass of facts regarding important characteristics of the population such as age and sex, marital status, place of birth, religion, mother tongue, subsidiary language known, place of last residence, reason for migration, whether an individual belongs to a scheduled caste or scheduled tribe, literacy, how many are workers, the nature of their economic activity, how many are engaged in secondary work and how many are non-workers etc. In the case of ever married and currently married women, additional information has been collected about age at marriage, number of children born and any child born alive during last one year.

The Household schedule has been utilised to uncover various kinds of household particulars in addition to basic census questionnaire like predominant materials of construction of wall, roof and floor, facilities available to the household like drinking water supply, toilet, electricity, accommodation, tenancy, land cultivation etc.

In the census hierarchy the highest functionary responsible for conducting the population census is the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India. In the states the responsibility for organising and supervising the census operations lies with the Director of Census Operations who functions under the operational control of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner India. In 1981, the census enumeration in Sikkim was done in 447 revenue blocks including forests blocks & special areas and 8 towns. This gigantic task of census taking was got accomplished through the assistance and close co-operation of the general administrative machinery of the State Government.

This report portrays certain basic characteristics of the population of Sikkim such as the size of population, its distribution, growth rate of population, density, sex ratio, age distribution and marital status, literacy, languages we speak, religions we follow, scheduled caste and scheduled tribe population and its distribution, economic activities, fertility and movement of people etc. as revealed by the 1981 census figures. In the chapters that follow, an attempt has been made to discuss all the above characteristics of the population of Sikkim with reference to the data as at the sun rise of first March, 1981.

CHAPTER II

HOW MANY ARE WE ?

Sikkim's population of 316,385 persons was distributed in four districts, eight towns and four hundred forty-seven revenue blocks (including 38 forest blocks and 4 special areas). Sikkim shares 0.05 per cent of India's 685,184,692 population. Its geographical area is 7,096 km2 which accounts for 0.22 per cent of the total national area. The state with the largest population in India is Uttar Pradesh with a population of 110,862,013 which accounts for 16.18 percent to total population of India. Sikkim holds 28th rank among the states and union territories in respect of population.

TABLE II.1

Area and population of states and union territories

	Name of State/ Union Territory	Area in Km²*	Population	State area as % of national area	State population as % of national population
	1	2	3	4	5
	INDIA . .	3,287,263	685,184,692†	100.00	100.00
1.	Andhra Pradesh	275,068	53,549,673	8.37	7.82
2.	Assam . .	78,438	19,896,843**	2.39	2.90
3.	Bihar . .	173,877	69,914,734	5.29	10.20
4.	Gujarat . .	196,024	34,085,799	5.96	4.97
5.	Haryana . .	44,212	12,922,618	1.34	1.89
6.	Himachal Pradesh	55,673	4,280,818	1.69	0.62
7.	Jammu & Kashmir . .	222,236	5,987,389	6.76	0.87
8.	Karnataka .	191,791	37,135,714	5.83	5.42

TABLE II.1—*contd.*

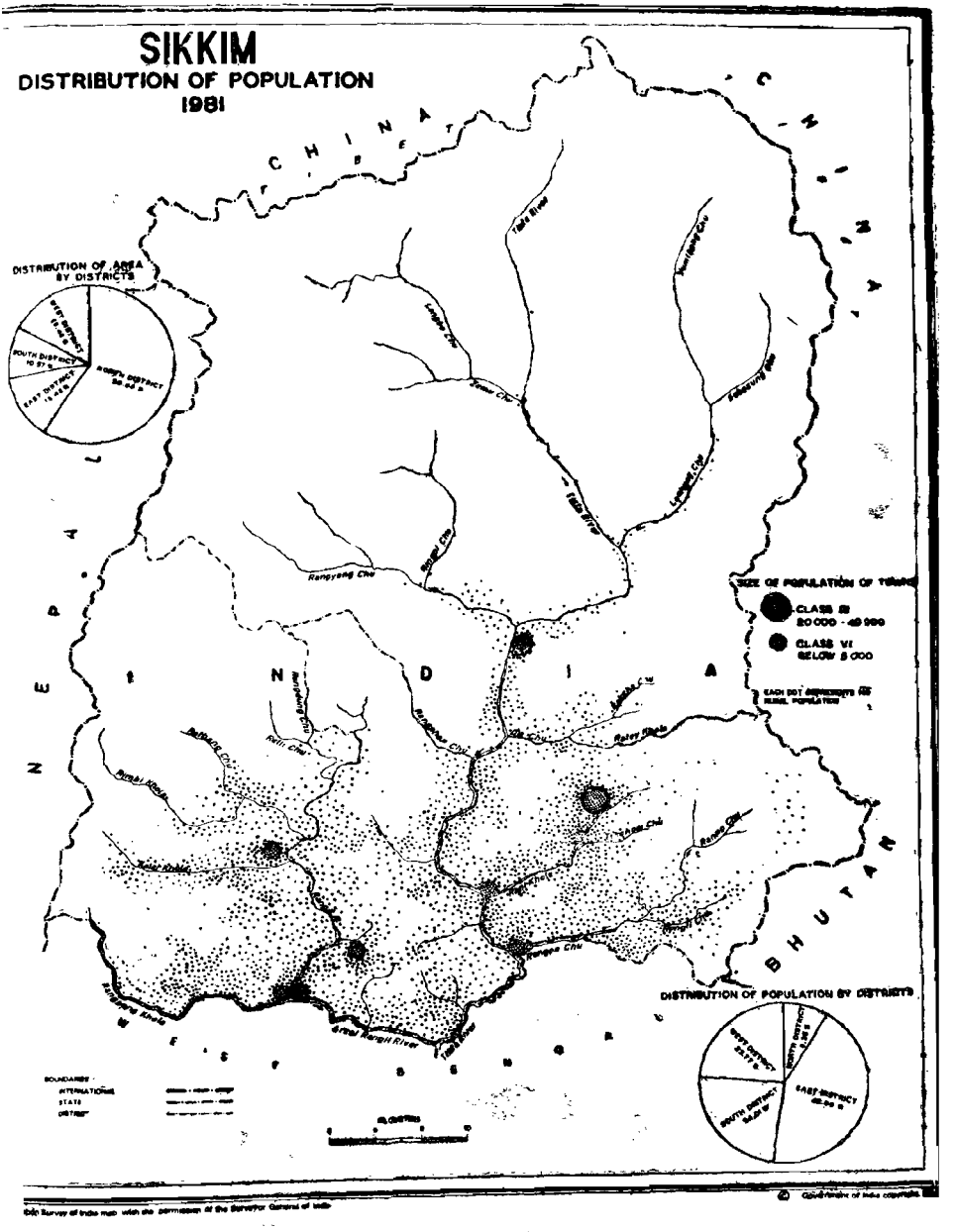
1	2	3	4	5
9. Kerala . .	38,863	25,453,680	1.18	3.71
10. Madhya Pradesh	443,446	52,178,844	13.49	7.62
11. Maharashtra .	307,690	62,784,171	9.36	9.16
12. Manipur . .	22,327	1,420,953	0.68	0.21
13. Meghalaya .	22,429	1,335,819	0.68	0.19
14. Nagaland . .	16,579	774,930	0.50	0.11
15. Orissa . .	155,707	26,370,271	4.74	3.85
16. Punjab . .	50,362	16,788,915	1.53	2.45
17. Rajasthan .	342,239	34,261,862	10.41	5.00
18. Sikkim . .	7,096	316,385	0.22	0.05
19. Tamil nadu .	130,058	48,408,077	3.96	7.06
20. Tripura . .	10,486	2,053,058	0.32	0.30
21. Uttar Pradesh .	294,411	110,862,013	8.96	16.18
22. West Bengal .	88,752	54,580,647	2.70	7.97
23. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	8,249	188,741	0.25	0.03
24. Arunachal Pradesh . .	83,743	631,839	2.55	0.09
25. Chandigarh .	114	451,610	N	0.07
26. Dadra & Nagar Haveli . .	491	103,676	0.01	0.02
27. Delhi . .	1,483	6,220,406	0.05	0.91
28. Goa, Daman & Diu . .	3,814	1,086,730	0.12	0.16
29. Lakshadweep .	32	40,249	N	0.01
30. Mizoram . .	21,081	493,757	0.64	0.07
31. Pondicherry .	492	604,471	0.02	0.09

*Provisional area figures furnished by surveyor general as on 31-3-82 (Sq. Km.).

**Projected.

†Includes projected population of Assam.

Madhya Pradesh having the largest area (13.49 percent of the national area) occupies 6th rank in population with 7.62 per cent of the country's population. Rajasthan with the second largest area (10.41 per cent of the national area) has 9th rank in population (5.00 per cent of the country's population). In comparison to the whole of the country, the


SIKKIM
DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION
1981
CHINA
TIBET
NEPAL
INDIA
BHUTAN
DISTRIBUTION OF AREA BY DISTRICTS
DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY DISTRICTS
Rangpong Chu
Rongli Chu
Rangit River
Teesta River
Lachung Chu
Lachen Chu
Zemu Chu
Rathong Chu
Rathong Khola
Rangit Khola
Rongli Khola
Rangpo Chu
Tarku Chu
Rorok Chu
Rorok Khola
Tista River
Rangpo Chu
Rangit River
Rangpo Khola
Rangpo Chu
Rangit River
Rangpo Khola
Rangpo Chu
Rangit River
Rangpo Khola

population of Sikkim is negligible. To be very exact, the population of this state is only 0.05% of the total population of India. There are, however, three union territories whose 1981 Census Population is less than that of Sikkim. They are Andaman & Nicobar Islands (188,741), Dadra & Nagar Haveli (103,676) and Lakshadweep (40,249). Among the three union territories mentioned above Andaman & Nicobar Islands is bigger in area than Sikkim. Table II.1 shows the area and population of all states and union territories together with their percentages to the total national area and population.

District-wise 1981 Census population of Sikkim indicates that the district with the largest population is East with a population of 138,762 and North is the least populated district with a population of 26,455. The area of East District is only 13.44 per cent of the state's geographical area which relegates it to the third position in terms of area. In respect of population, East district shares 43.86 per cent of the total population of Sikkim. This is on account of rapid expansion of urban areas like the capital town of Gangtok and business centres like Rangpo, Singtam, Pakyong and Rhenock. It is also due to many small scale industrial units sprung up along Singtam Rangpo Highway. The districts of South and West occupy the 2nd and 3rd rank in population with 4th and 3rd rank in area respectively. North district is the state's largest district and accounts for little more than half of the geographical area of the state. Its population is only 26,455 which is 8.36 per cent of the total population of the state. The sparsely populated area of North district may be attributed to the obvious reason that a vast portion of the district is uninhabitable hills covered with snow, and only a much smaller portion of it is habitable.

The next in rank in geographical area is West district which occupies an area of 1,166 km2 and accounts for 16.43 per cent of the total geographical area of the state. It has a population of 75,192 which is 23.77 per cent of the total population of the state. South district with 750 km^2 in area (10.57% of the state) ranks fourth in geographical area but second in population size (population 75976). The distribution of area and population of Sikkim among its four districts is given in table II.2.

TABLE II.2

Distribution of population among districts of Sikkim

State/District	Area			Population		
	Area in km²	% of states area	Rank in area	Population	% of states poula-lation	Rank in population
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
SIKKIM . .	7,096	100.00		316,385	100.00	
North . . .	4,226	59.56	1	26,455	8.36	4
East . . .	954	13.44	3	138,762	43.86	1
South . . .	750	10.57	4	75,976	24.01	2
West . . .	1,166	16.43	2	75,192	23.77	3

Average Population

The average population of a district is derived by the simple method of dividing the total population of the country/ state by the number of districts. The average population of a district in Sikkim is 79,096. The average for the country is 166,3070 which is about 21 times the average population of a district in Sikkim. The table II.3 shows that the average district population of Delhi (6220406) is the highest among all the states and union territories in India. The reason for being highest is, that Delhi is a unidistrict union territory West Bengal and Tamil Nadu are the two other states where the average district population stands at a fairly high level.

It is evident from table No. II.3 that the average population of a district is higher in almost all the states and union territories of India as compared to Sikkim except in Arunachal Pradesh and Lakshadweep. However, there is no point in comparing the average size of population of a state which is entirely hilly with the states having vast plain areas with other factors favourable for human settlements. We should therefore, compare the average size of population of the district of Sikkim with the hilly states like Himachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh which have got the similar climatic conditions as prevailing in Sikkim. A look on the table reveals that Arunachal Pradesh is the only state where the average population of a district is slightly less than that of Sikkim.

It may be interesting to know how the districts of Sikkim are placed in regard to the state average. The distribution of population in the four districts of Sikkim is not uniform. East is the most populous district in Sikkim and the least populous district of Sikkim is North. East district is followed by South and West in respect of population.

TABLE II.3

Average population of a district in the state/union territory

Rank in 1981	State/U.T.	No. of Distt.	Average population size of district
1	2	3	4
	INDIA	412	1,663,070
1	Delhi	1	6,220,406
2	West Bengal	16	3,411,290
3	Tamil Nadu	16	3,025,505
4	Maharashtra	26	2,414,776
5	Andhra Pradesh	23	2,328,247
6	Bihar	31	2,255,314
7	Kerala	12	2,121,140
8	Orissa	13	2,028,482
9	Assam	10	1,989,684
10	Uttar Pradesh	56	1,979,679
11	Karnataka	19	1,954,511
12	Gujarat	19	1,793,989
13	Punjab	12	1,399,076
14	Rajasthan	26	1,317,764
15	Madhya Pradesh	45	1,159,530
16	Harayana	12	1,076,885
17	Tripura	3	684,353

TABLE II.3—*contd.*

1	2	3	4
18	Chandigarh	1	451,610
19	Jammu & Kashmir . . .	14	427,671
20	Goa, Daman & Diu . . .	3	362,243
21	Himachal Pradesh. . . .	12	356,735
22	Meghalaya	5	267,164
23	Manipur	6	236,826
24	Mizoram	3	164,586
25	Pandicherry	4	151,118
26	Nagaland	7	110,704
27	Dadra & Nagar Haveli . .	1	103,676
28	Andaman & Nicobar Islands . .	2	94,371
29	Sikkim	4	79,096
30	Arunachal Praesh . . .	9	70,204
31	Lakshadweep	1	40,249

Density of population

The word density means the number of persons that would inhabit 1 km² of area if the entire population of a given area were to be evenly distributed over that area. This is of course purely theoretical since in actual practice it is never possible to attain this even distribution.

The density of population at the all India level is 216 persons per km². As against this, the density of population of Sikkim is 45. Among the states and union territories, Delhi records the highest density at 4,194 per km², followed by union territory of Chandigarh with a density of 3,961. Delhi and Chandigarh are single unit metropolitan cities. Among the states, only Kerala with 655 and West Bengal with 615 persons per km² have very high densities. Population density varies from 4,194 in Delhi to 8 in Arunachal Pradesh. The states which are close to Sikkim on this score are Jammu & Kashmir (59), Manipur (64), Meghalaya (60) and Nagaland (69).

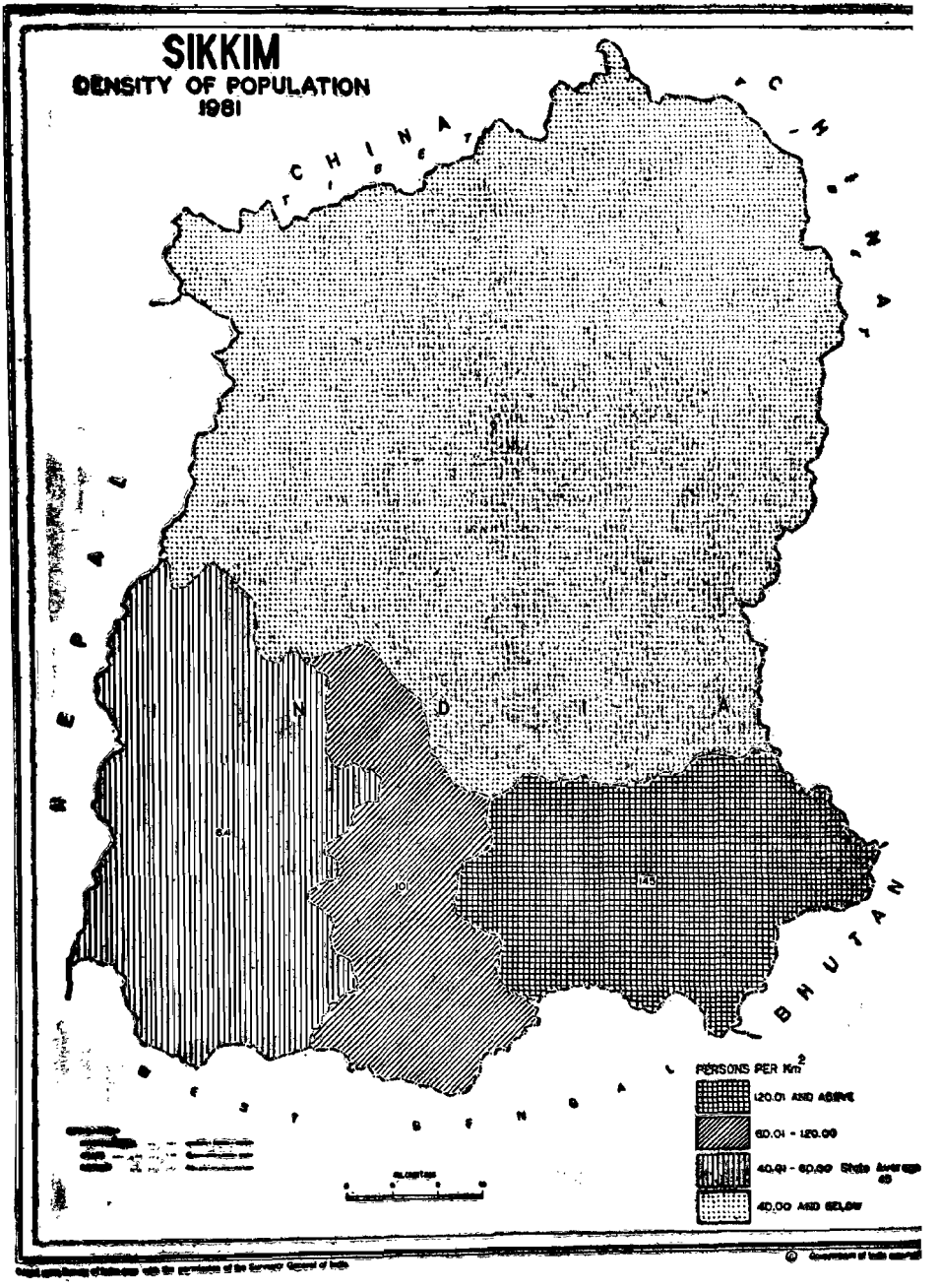

SIKKIM
DENSITY OF POPULATION
1981
CHINA
TIBET
NEPAL
BHUTAN
INDIA
PERSONS PER Km²
120.01 AND ABOVE
80.01 - 120.00
40.01 - 80.00
40.00 AND BELOW
84
10
145

TABLE II.4

Density of population per km² in the states/UTs

Sl. No.	States/U.T.	Density
1	2	3
	INDIA	216*
1	Andhra Pradesh	195
2	Assam	254**
3	Bihar	402
4	Gujarat	174
5	Haryana	292
6	Himachal Pradesh	77
7	Jammu & Kashmir	59*
8	Karnataka	194
9	Kerala	655
10	Madhya Pradesh	118
11	Maharashtra	204
12	Manipur	64
13	Meghalaya	60
14	Nagaland	47
15	Orissa	169
16	Punjab	333
17	Rajasthan	100
18	Sikkim	45
19	Tamil Nadu	372
20	Tripura	196
21	Uttar Pradesh	377
22	West Bengal	615
23	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	23
24	Arunachal Pradesh	8
25	Chandigarh	3,961
26	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	211
27	Delhi	4,194
28	Goa, Daman & Diu	285
29	Lakshadweep	1,258
30	Mizoram	23
31	Pondicherry	1,229

*The density has been worked out on comparable data.
**Worked out on the basis of the projected population of Assam.

Taking the subject a stage further it may be useful to examine the density of population in various districts of Sikkim. The density of population in each of the four districts of the state is given in table II.5.

East district has the highest density with 145 persons followed by the district of South (101), West (64) and North (6). Gangtok, the capital of Sikkim is situated in East district and accommodates a large number of offices, government as well as private, in its fold. Many small scale industries are also located in this district. This has raised the district's population and in turn its density to a considerable extent in comparison to other districts of the state. The area of North district is relatively very big and the density of population is extremely low. The major portion of this district consists of rocky hills and large forests. The relative availability of cultivated land being limited, and there being absence of other industrial or business activities to any appreciable extent, the district is sparsely populated.

TABLE II.5

Density of population in districts of Sikkim

Sl. No.	District	Density
1	2	3
1	North	6
2	East	145
3	South	101
4	West	64

Growth Rate

The population is said to be a 'dynamic variable' because it constantly changes over time. The growth of population of a country or a region is influenced by the inter-play of births, deaths and migration. Growth rate of population as the term denotes is the rate at which the population of a given area is growing over a given period of time.

It is customary to express the extent of the changes, the births and deaths bring in by using various indicators, the most common indicators being 'crude birth rate' and 'crude death rate'. The crude birth rate is the ratio of live births that take place in a year in a population, to the population, and

is usually expressed as the number of live births taking place per 1000 persons. Similarly, the crude death rate is the ratio of the number of deaths that occur in a year in a population, to the population, and is usually expressed as the number of deaths occuring per 1000 persons. The difference between the births and the deaths indicates the natural growth of a population and the rate of natural growth of a population is usually expressed by the difference between the birth rate and death rate in respect to a population for a particular year.

The third factor, namely migration, affects a population in two ways : inmigration adds to a population whereas outmigration depletes it. The difference between the inmigration and outmigration is called the net migration which may be either positive or negative depending upon whether the magnitude of inmigration is greater or smaller than that of outmigration.

The effect of migration may be quite prominent for a small state like Sikkim. In other words, the net migration to a small area may have a large magnitude compared to the population of the area. The most important aspect of our study relates to the growth of population in different decades. Table II.6 gives the percentage of decadal variation of population from 1901 to 1981 for total, rural and urban areas separately.

TABLE II.6

District	Total Rural Urban	1901 to 1981	1971 to 1981	1961 to 1971	1951 to 1961
1	2	3	4	5	6
SIKKIM . .	Total	436.12	50.77	2938	17.76
	Rural	349.57	39.50	22.42	15.08
	Urban	1,761.66*	159.73	187.21	149.56
North	Total	N.A.	103.28	33.35	N.A.
	Rural	N.A.	102.44	29.96	N.A.
	Urban	N.A.	135.65	N.A.	N.A.
East . .	Total	N.A.	62.07	51.00	N.A.
	Rural	N.A.	39.24	37.60	N.A.
	Urban	N.A.	154.08	148.53	N.A.
South . .	Total	N.A.	42.85	N.A.	N.A.
	Rural	N.A.	35.89	N.A.	N.A.
	Urban	N.A.	339.03	N.A.	N.A.
West . .	Total	N.A.	29.59	N.A.	N.A.
	Rural	N.A.	29.10	N.A.	N.A.
	Urban	N.A.	54.84	N.A.	N.A.

TABLE II.6—*contd.*

District	Total Rural Urban	1941 to 1951	1931 to 1941	1921 to 1931	1911 to 1921	1901 to 1911
1	2	7	8	9	10	11
SIKKIM	Total	13.34	10.67	34.37	7.05	48.98
	Rural	13.34	10.67	34.37	7.05	48.98
	Urban	..	..	..	..	..
North . .	Total	..	..	..	..	..
	Rural	..	..	..	..	..
	Urban	..	..	..	..	..
East . .	Total	..	..	..	..	..
	Rural	..	..	..	..	..
	Urban	..	..	..	..	..
South . .	Total	..	..	..	..	..
	Rural	..	..	..	..	..
	Urban	..	..	..	..	..
West . .	Total	..	..	..	..	..
	Rural	..	..	..	..	..
	Urban	..	..	..	..	..

*The urban variation in population is for the period 1951-1981 in column 3 for Sikkim.

It is observed from the foregoing statement that under columns 3 and 6—11 data at district level are not available.

The variation in population for collective decades of 1901 to 1981 under column 3 is actually available for total which comes to 436.12%. The rural variation 349.57% represents to the rural population. The urban variation (1761.66%) in population represents only for the period 1951—1981 since the first town came into existence in the state in 1951 and continued onwards. Thus the study can fairly be made for the period 1951—1981 at the state level. The emergence of districts between 1961 and 1971 is one of the reasons for non-comparison of data for the earlier decades at district level.

It can be observed from the table that there has been a continuous rising trend in the variation of population from the decades 1951--1961, 1961—1971 and 1971—1981 for total, rural and urban areas. The variation in rural was 15.08 per cent in the decade 1951—61 which rose to 22.42 per cent in the next decade 1961—1971, and 39.50 per cent in 1971—1981. There was a tremendous increase in variation of urban population i.e. 149.56 per cent in 1951—1961, 187.21 per cent in 1961—1971 and 159.73 per cent in 1971—1981.

CHAPTER III

VILLAGE DWELLERS AND TOWN DWELLERS

Census data have always been presented for rural and urban areas separately. Persons living in villages are indicative of the population for rural areas and those living in towns and cities for urban areas. But why is it necessary to present the rural and the urban data separately in each Census ? The answer is that the urbanisation has become a symbol for progress. The rural areas are mainly inhabited by the agriculturists, and in an underdeveloped country they represent the poorer section of the people who have little else to do except cultivation to earn a living. Therefore, urbanisation stands for prosperity and more diversified occupation. What more, the urban areas induce prosperity and diversification of occupation into the surrounding rural areas. Therefore, the rate of urbanisation acts as an index of progress.

It is customary to divide the population at the Census of every country into two broad categories, namely rural and urban. A visibly sharp difference exists between the life of villagers and that of town dwellers in their dresses, the way they speak, their food habits, the job they do and the like. Generally, rural society presents sharp contrasts in economic, social and cultural set up compared to an urban area. Infact, towns serve as the centres for the spread of knowledge, education and technology and influence the growth and socio-economic life of the areas around. Towns and cities possess certain characteristics like established street patterns, contiguously aligned buildings and public services such as sewarage, piped water supply, electric lighting, hospitals and market facilities, educational institutions, courts of law and local means of transport. For more scientific purposes, the rural and urban conditions are more specifically defined and the criteria adoped to identify an urban and rural areas were as follows in 1981.

As in the previous censuses, the 1981 Census data is presented by rural and urban area. The basic unit for rural areas is the revenue block (village) which has definite surveyed boundaries. The revenue village is one unit for presentation of data. In unsurveyed forest block within forest areas, each habitation area with locally recognised boundaries within each forest range officer's beat is treated as one unit.

Urban areas are specially defined for Census purposes. In the 1981 Census the same criteria as adopted in 1961 and 1971 Censuses with only some minor variation are adopted. Urban areas in the 1981 Census are :—

(a) All places with a municipality, corporation or cantonment board or notified town area ;

(b) All other places which satisfied the following criteria ;

(i) A minimum population of 5,000 ;

(ii) At least 75% of the male working population engaged in non-agricultural (and allied) activity ;

(iii) A population of at least 400 per Km^2 (or one thousand per sq. mile).

The urban criterion of 1981 varies slightly from that of 1961 and 1971 Censuses in that the males working in activities such as fishing, logging etc. were treated as engaged in non-agricultural activity and therefore, contributed to the 75 per cent criterion in 1961 and 1971 Censuses, whereas in the 1981 Census these activities are treated as on par with cultivation and agricultural labour for the purpose of this criterion.

Urban Agglomeration: Apart from town/city the 1971 concept of urban agglomeration is also adopted for the 1981 Census. Very often large railway colonies, university campuses, port areas, military camps, etc. came up outside the statutory limits of the city or town but adjoining it. Such areas may not by themselves qualify to be treated as towns but if they form continuous spread with the town, they are outgrowths of the town and deserve to be treated as urban. Such

towns together with their out growth have been treated as one urban unit and called 'urban agglomeration'. An urban agglomeration may constitute ; (a) a city with continuous outgrowth (the part of out growth being out side the statutory limits but falling within the boundaries of the adjoining village or villages), (b) one town with similar outgrowth or two or more adjoining towns with their outgrowths as in (a); or (c) a city and one or more adjoining towns with their outgrowths all of which form a continuous spread.

In Sikkim, there was no urban agglomeration in 1981 Census.

Comparison with other states and union territories

India is predominantly rural and only 23.31 per cent of its inhabitants live in an urban area. 525,457, 335 out of its 685,184,692 inhabitants were found in rural areas at the 1981 Census. In other words, nearly 77 out of every 100 Indians live in the villages and 23 are dwellers of towns and cities. In Sikkim, 84 out of every 100 persons live in the villages and the remaining 16 in the towns and cities.

The most urbanised state in India is Maharashtra (35.03%), closely followed by Tamil Nadu (32.95%), Gujarat (31.10%), Karnataka with (28.89%). The least urbanised states are Himachal Pradesh (7.61%), Assam (10.29%), Tripura (10.99%) and Orissa (11.79%). The union territories of Delhi and Chandigarh are highly urbanised areas. 93.63 per cent of Chandigarh and 92.73 per cent inhabitants of Delhi are town dwellers whereas union territory of Arunachal Pradesh and Dadra & Nagar Haveli have very little urban areas. 6.56 per cent and 6.67 per cent inhabitants of Arunachal Pradesh and Dadra & Nagar Haveli are reported to be residing in urban areas respectively in 1981 Census.

As we have already seen, the population of India is prependerantly rural, it is much more so in case of Sikkim, state. About 84 persons in every 100 in Sikkim live in villages. Compared to other state of India, Sikkim is among the least urbanised. The other states that keep close to Sikkim are Nagaland, Uttar Pradesh and Kerala with 15.52%, 17.95% and 18.74% respectively.

TABLE III.1

Percentage of rural and urban population to total population in states/union territories of India, 1981

State/Union Territory	Percentage Population	
	Rural	Urban
1	2	3
INDIA*†	76.69	23.31
1. Andhra Pradesh	76.68	23.32
2. Assam*	89.71	10.29
3. Bihar	87.53	12.47
4. Gujarat	68.90	31.10
5. Haryana	78.12	21.88
6. Himachal Pradesh	92.39	7.61
7. Jammu & Kashmir	78.95	21.05
8. Karnataka	71.11	28.89
9. Kerala	81.26	18.74
10. Madhya Pradesh	79.71	20.29
11. Maharashtra	64.97	35.03
12. Manipur	73.58	26.42
13. Meghalaya	81.93	18.07
14. Nagaland	84.48	15.52
15. Orissa	88.21	11.79
16. Punjab	72.32	27.68
17. Rajasthan	78.95	21.05
18. Sikkim	83.85	16.15
19. Tamil Nadu	67.05	32.95
20. Tripura	89.01	10.99

TABLE III.1—*contd.*

1	2	3
21. Uttar Pradesh	82.05	17.95
22. West Bengal	73.53	26.47
23. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	73.70	26.30
24. Arunachal Pradesh	93.44	6.56
25. Chandigarh	6.37	93.63
26. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	93.33	6.67
27. Delhi	7.27	92.73
28. Goa, Daman & Diu	67.63	32.37
29. Lakshadweep	53.72	46.28
30. Mizoram	75.33	24.67
31. Pondicherry	47.72	52.28

*Projected.

†The figures exclude the population of area under unlawful occupation of Pakistan and China where Census could not be taken.

In many states and union territories namely, Assam (18.74%), Madhya Pradesh (20.29%), Meghalaya (18.07%), Pradesh (7.61%), Jammu & Kashmir (21.05%), Kerala (18.74%), Madhya Pradesh (20.29%), Meghalaya (18.07%), Nagaland (15.52%), Orissa (11.79%), Rajasthan (21.05%), Sikkim (16.15%), Tripura (10.99%) and Uttar Pradesh (17.95%), the proportion of the urban population is lower than the national average.

The urban population of Sikkim (51,084) spread over eight towns accounts for 16.15 per cent of the state's total population.

In Sikkim 'Revenue Block' is the coterminous of revenue village of other parts of the country. The definition of rural can be interpreted in terms that the limits of a revenue block has the recognition of the district administration. It is not necessary that a revenue block should have a single agglomeration and habitation but the revenue block should have a definite surveyed boundaries.

For Census purposes, the block is always a revenue block which has the ultimate unit of area into which state/country is divided for the purpose of land revenue. The hamlets do not have the definite boundaries or areas distinctly marked or allotttd to them. The hamlets are situated within the areas earmarked for the revenue block.

The entire revenue block is one unit. There may be unsurveyed blocks within forest etc., which are mainly comprised of labourers and their families. Such forest block has also been treated as block.

As already mentioned, India is having a predominatly agricultural economy, it is not surprising that a preponderent proportion (76.69%) of the population lives in rural areas. As compared to the national average, 83.85 per cent of population of Sikkim lives in rural areas which shows very slow progress in urbanisation. It will be quite interesting if we compare proportion of rural population in other states of India with that of Sikkim. It can be observed from table III.1 that percentage of rural population to total population of Himachal Pradesh (92.39), Tripura (89.01), Orissa (88.21), Assam (89.71), Bihar (87.53) and Nagaland (84.48) is higher compared to Sikkim (83.85%).

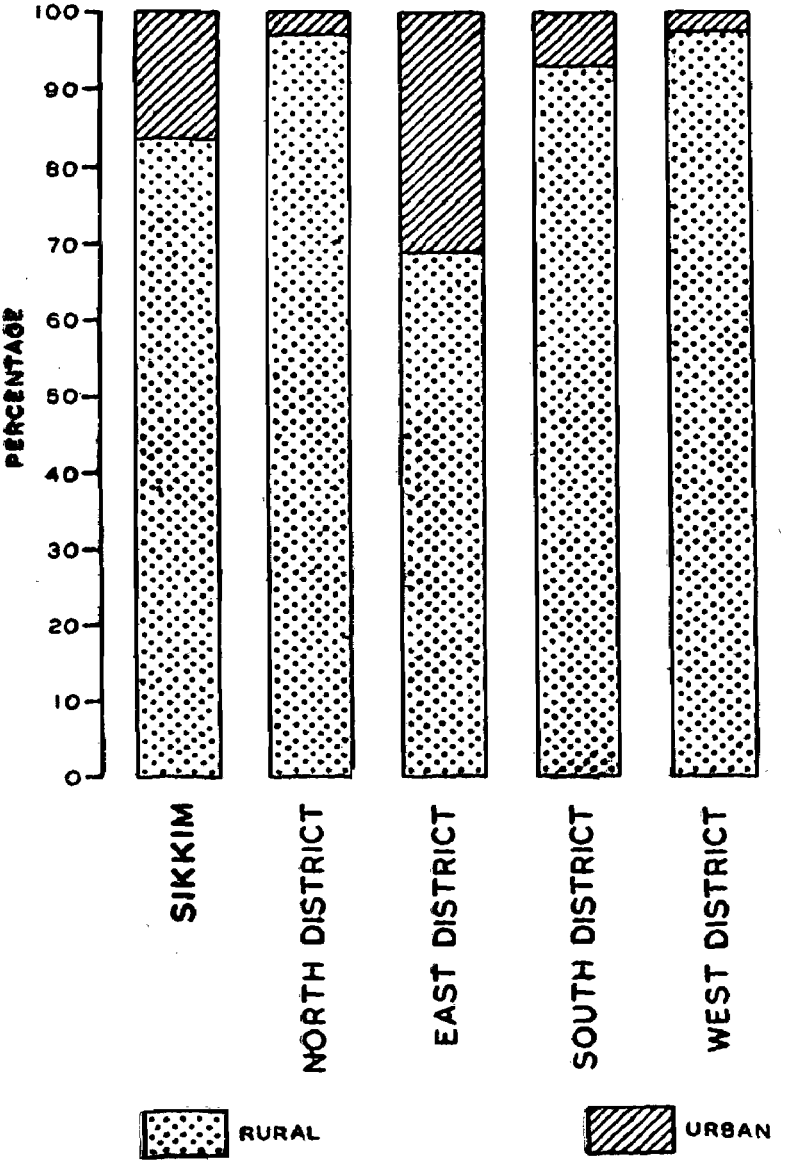
Table III.2 gives the percentage break-up of rural and urban population of Sikkim and its districts as revealed by 1981 Census.

TABLE III.2

Percentage of rural and urban population to total population in districts

	District	Percentage of population	
		Rural	Urban
	1	2	3
	SIKKIM	83.85	16.15
1.	North	97.05	2.95
2.	East	68.84	31.16
3.	South	92.94	7.06
4.	West	97.74	2.26

PERCENTAGE OF RURAL AND URBAN POPULATION 1981



The most urbanised district of the state is East where 31.16 per cent of the population lives in urban areas. Then comes South (7.06%) and North (2.95%). West with 2.26 per cent urban population is the least urbanised among the four districts of Sikkim. So far as East district is concerned, rapid expansion of urban areas like the Gangtok the capital town of the state and the business centres like the Rangpo and Singtam are the main reasons for the high urban proportion.

Average population of village

There are in all 440 inhabited and 7 uninhabited villages in Sikkim. Table III.3 gives the details about the number of villages, rural population and the size of inhabited villages.

TABLE III.3

Number of villages, rural population and the size of inhabited village

State/Distt.	Total number of villages		Total rural population	Average population size of an inhabited village
	Inhabited	Uninhabited		
1	2	3	4	5
SIKKIM . . .	440	7	265,301	603
1. North	51	3	25,675	503
2. East	126	2	95,520	758
3. South	144	1	70,611	490
4. West	119	1	73,495	618

Out of 447 total revenue blocks in the state, 405 are the actual revenue blocks, remaining 38 are forest blocks and 4 special areas (monasteries and tea estates). The figure 7 showing the total number of uninhabited villages in column 3 of the table actually refers to the uninhabited forest blocks.

No revenue block as such has been reported uninhabited in 1981 Census. Thus it may be concluded from the 440 inhabited villages shown in column 2 that it includes 35 inhabited forest blocks/tea estates also.

According to the 1981 Census, the average population size of an inhabited village in Sikkim is 603 as against 758 in East district. The average population of an inhabited village is comparatively much higher in East district and much lower in the district of South.

Table III.4 gives the percentage of population living in revenue blocks of various population sizes with reference to the total population in 1981.

TABLE III.4

Percentage of population living in revenue blocks of various population sizes with reference to the total population in 1981

State/ District	Percentage of population living in revenue block to total population						
	Less than 200	200 to 499	500 to 999	1000 to 1999	2000 to 4999	5000 to 9999	10,000 +
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
SIKKIM	2.06	23.99	35.73	29.65	8.57	—	—
North .	4.87	33.84	20.27	41.02	—	—	—
East .	1.09	14.46	30.00	30.64	23.81	—	—
South .	2.99	33.84	47.66	15.51	—	—	—
West .	1.46	23.47	37.11	37.96	—	—	—

It is observed from table III.4 that a very small proportion of population (2.06%) is living in revenue blocks falling in the population range of less than 200 and 8.57% in the population range of 2000—4999. It is evident from columns 7 and 8 that no revenue block in any district falls under the

categories of population 5,000 and above. The highest proportion 35.73 per cent is noted in the population range 500—999. followed by 29.65 per cent in population range 1000—1999 and 23.99 per cent in the population range of 200 to 499 in the state.

Amongst the districts, in the population range of less than 200, East district has recorded lowest percentage (1.09%) whereas North district has recorded the highest proportion 4.87 per cent. In the next range 200—499 again, East district has recorded the lowest percentage 14.46 per cent and highest proportion (33.84%) is observed in North district. Incidentally, South district has also the identical percentage in the same range. Under the range of 500—999, North district has recorded the lowest percentage 20.27 per cent and highest percentage 47.66 goes to South district. Again North district has topped the list by securing the highest percentage 41.02 per cent in the population range of 1000—1999 and the lowest proportion of population in this range is witnessed in South district (15.51%).

Distribution of Towns 1971 and 1981

Sikkim as a whole is urbanised to the extent of 16.15 per cent. The degree of urbanisation differs from district to district, from as high as 31.16 per cent in East district to as low as 2.26 per cent in West district. The reasons for low rate of urbanisation in North, South and West are probably lack of industrial, trade or commercial centres in the districts.

The comparative figures for 1971 and 1981 Censuses indicate increase in the number of towns by one in 1981 from that of 1971 but in fact no new town in 1981 was formed.

This increase is the result of bifurcation of 1971 census twin town Jorethang and Nayabazar. This bifurcation became town Jorethang and Nayabazar. This bifurcation became necessary in view of the boundary's jurisdiction of Jorethang town coming under South district and Nayabazar in West district. It bcomes clear from table III.5 that there was only one town namely, Namchi in South district in 1971 but the bifurcation of 1971 census twin town Jorethang and Naya-

bazar created one new town i.e. Jorethang in South district in 1981 census. Thus, in 1981 census, the number of towns in the state rose to 8 as against 7 in 1971.

TABLE III.5

Distribution of Towns in 1971 and 1981

District	No. of towns in		Percentage of urban to total population	
	1981	1971	1981	1971
1	2	3	4	5
SIKKIM . . .	8	7	16.15	9.37
North	1	1	2.95	2.54
East	3	3	31.16	19.88
South	2	1	7.06	0.88
West	2	2	2.26	3.16

Town by size class of population

The towns have been arranged in the order of population size and class of town. All the towns have been grouped into the following 6 classes according to population size.

Class I	Population of 100,000 and above
Class II	Population of 50,000—99,999
Class III	Population of 20,000—49,999
Class IV	Population of 10,000—19,999
Class V	Population of 5,000—9,999
Class VI	Population of less than 5,000

According to Indian census convention, a place with a population of 100,000 and above is called a city.

Table III.6 shows that there is no city in Sikkim. It is also observed that no town in the state exists in class I, II and V. Under class III, in 1981 only one town exists in the state which belongs to East district. Under class IV only one town existed in 1971. The same town has been upgraded to class III in 1981.

TABLE III.6

Number and population of towns in 1971 and 1981 census arranged in six Classes I to VI

Class of towns	1981		1971	
	No. of tonws	Population	No. of towns	Population
1	2	3	4	5
All classes	8	51,084	7	19,668
I	—	—	—	—
II	—	—	—	—
III	1	36,747	—	—
IV	—	—	1	13,308
V	—	—	—	—
VI	7	14,337	6	6,360

As a matter of fact Gangtok, the capital town of the state is a class III town and it accounts for 71.93 per cent of the total urban population of the state. The other 7 towns located in various districts of the state belong to category VI of the towns and absorb the remaining 28.07 per cent of the urban population of the state.

Urban Agglomeration and standared Urban Area

Apart from town/city, the 1971 concept of urban agglomeration and standared urban areas was also adopted for 1981 Census. But in Sikkim there is no such area and therefore this topic is not discussed here.

CHAPTER IV

ARE THE NUMBER OF MEN AND WOMEN BALANCED

What is sex ratio?

The Indian censuses traditionally defines sex ratio as the number of females per 1000 males as against the United Nation's practice of defining sex ratio as the number of males. per 1000 females. It is generally expected that the males and the females are equal in number everywhere and at all times. Some surprise is usually expressed when census figures show the contrary. The census figures show not only that males and females are unequal in number but also that the magnitude of this inequality is different in different parts of this country and also within different sections of the population belonging to the same area. These differences both based on geography or community are sometimes negligible but sometimes substantial. Moreover, the differences may and very often become smaller or bigger over the time and such differences do get reflected in the census figures.

Where we stand in the sex ratio

1981 census shows a sex ratio of 934 females per 1,000 males for the whole country. The same for Sikkim is 835 females for 1,000 males. The position of Sikkim in sex ratio is fairly low amongst the states and union territories. All the major states show sex ratio higher than that of Sikkim. The states of Haryana, Punjab and Nagaland with their sex ratios of 870, 879 and 863 respectively to some extent come closer to Sikkim. Among the union territories, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands show a lower sex ratio than in Sikkim. Two predominantly urban union territories of Chandigarh and Delhi also show sex ratios lower than that of Sikkim. The sex ratio of India and Sikkim since 1901 is presented in table IV-1 and the sex ratio of India and its states/union

Territories as revealed by 1981 census of India is presented in table IV-2.

TABLE IV.1

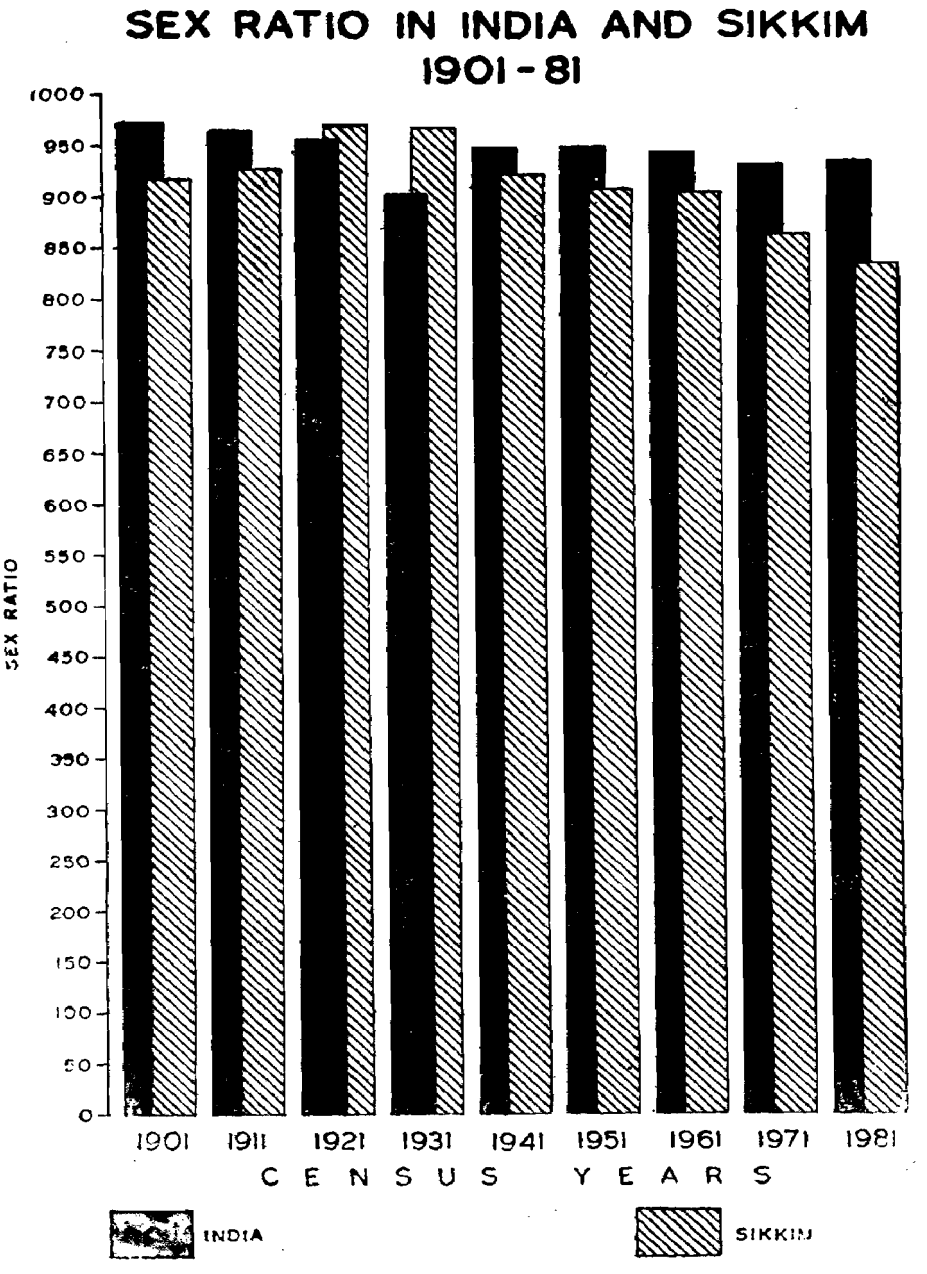
Sex ratio in India and Sikkim

Year	Sex ratio in	
	India*	Sikkim
1	2	3
1901	972	916
1911	964	951
1921	956	970
1931	952	967
1941	947	920
1951	948	907
1961	943	904
1971	931	863
1981	934	835

*Excludes Assam.

The sex ratio of India in the past decades shows that India suffers from a deficiency of females and that deficiency has been steadily increasing over the decades. Every census has recorded a decline in the sex ratio of our country. The number of females per 1,000 males was 972 in 1901 and it has steadily fallen to 931 in the 1971 census. However, a marginal gain is achieved in 1981 census when the sex ratio of 934 is recorded.

This imbalance between the sexes is even more marked in the state of Sikkim. The sex ratio in Sikkim is 835 in 1981 Census which is less than national sex ratio of 934. Figures of sex ratio in the past decades reveal that in Sikkim also there is a declining trend in the sex ratio. Sex ratio in this state was 916 in 1901 which steadily declined through the decades to the level of 835 in 1981. The decline is comparatively more pronounced during the decade 1961—71. However,


SEX RATIO IN INDIA AND SIKKIM
1901 - 81
SEX RATIO
1000
950
900
850
800
750
700
650
600
550
500
450
400
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
1901
1911
1921
1931
1941
1951
1961
1971
1981
C E N S U S Y E A R S
INDIA
SIKKIM

the sex ratio increased substantially from 916 in 1901 to 951 in 1911 and 970 in 1921. Thereafter, sex ratio has declined continuously in the successive censuses. Sex ratio among the states and Union Territories as obtained in 1981 census is given in Table IV.2.

TABLE IV.2

Sex ratio in 1981 *among the states and Union Territories*

India/State/Union Territory	Sex ratio
INDIA*	934
1. Andhra Pradesh	975
2. Assam	901
3. Bihar	946
4. Gujarat	942
5. Haryana	870
6. Himachal Pradesh	973
7. Jammu & Kashmir	892
8. Kerala	1,032
9. Karnataka	963
10. Madhya Pradesh	941
11. Maharshtra	937
12. Manipur	971
13. Meghalaya	954
14. Nagaland	863
15. Orissa	981
16. Punjab	879
17. Rajasthan	919
18. Sikkim	835
19. Tamil Nadu	977
20. Tripura	946
21. Uttar Pradesh	885

TABLE IV.2—*contd.*

1	2
22. West Bengal	911
23. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	760
24. Arunachal Pradesh	862
25. Chandigarh	769
26. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	974
27. Delhi	808
28, Goa, Daman & Diu	981
29. Lakshadweep	975
30. Mizoram	919
31. Pondicherry	985

*Excludes Assam.

-Based on projected population of Assam.

The sex ratio is not uniform throughout the country. There are variations from one state to another. It can be observed from table No. IV.2 that there is scarcity of women in proportion to men. The sole exception is Kerala which is the only state having an excess of females over males. The sex ratio in 1981 in Kerala is 1,032 which is naturally the highest among all the states and union territories. At the bottom is Andaman & Nicobar Islands with the lowest sex ratio of 760 in 1981. Among the states and union territories of India, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Nagaland, Punjab, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Chandigarh and Delhi have sex ratio below 900. Among the states, Sikkim has the lowest sex ratio, viz., 835.

The states and union territories showing a sex ratio of 950 and above are Andhra Pradesh (975), Himachal Pradesh (973), Karnataka (963), Kerala (1,032), Manipur (971), Meghalaya (954), Orissa (981), Tamil Nadu (977), Dadra & Nagar Havali (974), Goa, Daman & Diu (981), Lakshadweep

(975) and Pondicherry (985). In general, the state of Southern India have higher sex ratio than those of North-East India.

Sex ratio among the districts

Table No. IV.3 shows the sex-ratio in Sikkim and its districts.

TABLE IV.3

Sex ratio in the district

Name of District	Sex ratio
1	2
SIKKIM	835
1. North	789
2. East	797
3. South	854
4. West	906

The sex ratio in West district (906) is comparatively higher among the districts of Sikkim. In the districts of North and East, the sex ratio is less than the state average. The lowest sex ratio is observed in North district, where it is 789, followed by East district (797). South district with a sex ratio of 854 comes closer to the state average. The districts of South and West have a sex ratio higher than the state average. North and East districts are having substantially low proportion of females as compared to South and West districts.

Sex Ratio in Rural and Urban areas

The sex ratio of rural population of the country is 952 whereas the same for the urban population is 880. The rural sex ratio for Sikkim is 864 and the urban sex ratio is 697. The rural sex ratio is always more than the urban. The lower sex ratio in urban areas is mainly due to the fact that in urban areas there is a predominance of non-agricultural occupations which attracts less female participants. Besides, the urban population consists of a large number of migrant

workers and students who generally leave their families behind at their villages. This creates considerable imbalance in the sex ratio of urban areas.

TABLE IV.4

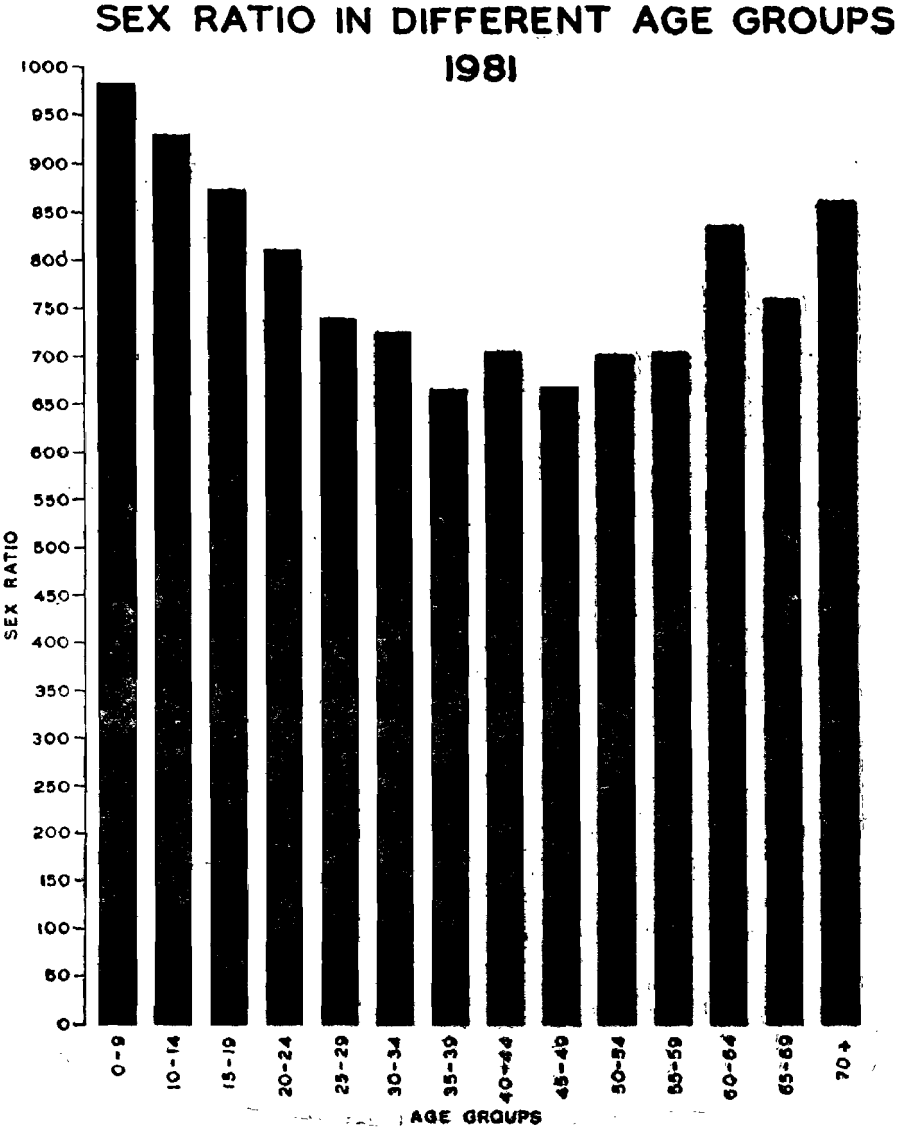
Rural and urban sex ratio in districts of Sikkim.

State/District	Sex ratio	
	Rural	Urban
1	2	3
SIKKIM	864	697
North	799	523
East	842	703
South	869	680
West	912	685

As expected there would be more males than females in urban areas in view of greater employment and services. Rural sex ratio is higher than that of urban sex ratio in all the four districts of Sikkim. There is no district in the state which is not predominantly inhabited by males. The highest sex ratio (912) in rural population is found in West district and the next highest (869) in South district. North district shows the lowest rural sex ratio of 799, followed by East district with 842. As regards the sex ratio of urban population, East district has higher sex ratio than the state figure and the remaining three districts show lower figures. East district has the highest urban sex ratio of 703 and North district the lowest sex ratio of 523.

Sex ratio in different Age Groups

The table IV.5 gives the sex ratio in Sikkim in different age groups. It can be seen from the table that in all the age groups, males outnumber females. However, the sex ratio in the younger age groups i.e. 0-9 and 10-14 is appreciably higher than the sex ratio of working population and older age groups. In the economically active age groups i.e. 15 and above, the


SEX RATIO IN DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS
1981
SEX RATIO
1000
950
900
850
800
750
700
650
600
550
500
450
400
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
0-9
10-14
15-19
20-24
25-29
30-34
35-39
40-44
45-49
50-54
55-59
60-64
65-69
70+
AGE GROUPS

sex ratio is quite low. It is probably due to the reason that the proportion of male inmigrants in the state in the working age groups is quite high.

The lowest sex ratio (663) is recorded in the age group 35—39, followed by the age groups 45—49 (666), 50—54 (700), 55—59 (702), 40—44 (704) etc. The older age group 60—64, 65—69 and 70+ shows 836, 759 and 863 respectively.

TABLE IV.5

Sex ratio in different age groups

Age group	Males	Females	Sex ratio
0—9	43,642	42,825	981
10—14	20,140	18,690	928
15—19	17,433	15,217	873
20—24	19,445	15,711	808
25—29	16,296	12,024	738
30—34	11,984	8,674	724
35—39	10,658	7,064	663
40—44	8,610	6,059	704
45—49	7,125	4,743	666
50—54	5,822	4,074	700
55—59	3,565	2,504	702
60—64	3,248	2,714	836
65—69	1,789	1,358	759
70+	2,561	2,210	863

Age distribution and marital status

The structure of a family being largely controlled by the most important factor of marriage, the central event and a significant landmark in the life-cycle of an individual, the marital status of an individual, apart from revealing several features of this social institution and holding the key to many sociological and demographic problems, has its own importance. In short, marital status of an individual is an integral part of the study of the fertility and fecundity prospects of a person too. The discussion hereinafter concerns the marital status of different age-groups for males and females separately.

Table No. IV.6 gives the marital status of males and females separately in various age groups.

TABLE IV.6

Age distribution and marital status (Sikkim)

Age group	Total Population		Marital Status							
			Never Married		Married		Widowed		Divorced or Separated	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—9	43,642	42,825	43,642	42,825	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—14	20,140	18,690	20,053	18,550	84	130	—	—	—	1
15—19	17,433	15,217	16,616	11,530	790	3,627	1	8	12	49
20—24	19,445	15,711	13,076	4,410	6,206	11,075	37	61	114	161
25—29	16,296	12,024	5,550	1,271	10,456	10,440	91	137	193	172
30—34	11,984	8,674	1,957	503	9,698	7,883	170	171	155	116
35—39	10,658	7,064	1,221	271	8,994	6,439	269	521	172	103
40—44	8,610	6,059	689	245	7,373	5,270	391	449	157	95
45—49	7,125	4,743	470	140	6,105	4,006	427	521	123	78
50—54	5,822	4,074	303	105	4,793	3,141	631	759	95	68
55—59	3,565	2,504	132	51	2,892	1,764	427	648	62	39
60—64	3,248	2,714	119	56	2,463	1,527	605	1,092	59	39
65—69	1,789	1,358	62	33	1,294	677	409	627	23	21
70+	2,561	2,210	76	40	1,519	796	947	1,352	37	21

That child marriage is generally not practised is evident from the fact that none of the children, male or female in the age group of 0—9 has been returned as married. A negligible proportion in the age group of 10—14 is reported to be married among both the male and female children. It can also be observed here that the girls get married at a relatively lower age than that of the males. To illustrate the point, one may examine the married males and females in the age-group (15—19). Of 4497 married persons in the same age-group 3,627 are females. The higher incidence of marriage among the females is further strengthened by the fact that only 4,410 (in the age-group 20—24) females have remained as spinsters out of a total of 15,711 females in this age-group. The highest incidence of marriage is reported in the age-group of 25—29 (male 10,456 and female 10,440). The limiting age of marriage among the males seems to be fixed at 25 to 29 years, as minimum of them beyond this age remain still unmarried.

Some teenager boys and girls have been found widowed and divorced or separated. The proportion of widowers and divorced or separated is quite low among all the age-groups. As expected the highest figures for widowers among both males and females is reported in the age group of 70+. Majority of the divorced or separated incidents are reported between the age of 20 years to 54 years in the case of both male and female.

In Sikkim, 125,297 are accounted for as children in ages 0—14, 186,317 are the middle-aged persons in age group 15—69, and 4,771 are elderly persons aged 70 years and above. We can, therefore, say that more than half the population of Sikkim comprises dependents including both children and elderly persons. This means that the labour force in the state is heavily burdened in having to support dependents of more than their size. The table also reveals that male population is larger than that of females in all the age-groups.

CHAPTER V

HOW MANY OF US CAN READ AND WRITE ?

Who is a literate ? In simple language, a literate person is the one who can both read and write with understanding in any language. A person who can merely read but cannot write, is not literate. It is not necessary that a person who is literate should have any formal education or should have passed any minimum educational standard. All children of the age of 4 years or less were treated as illiterate even if the child is going to a school and may have picked up reading and writing a few odd words.

Literacy has occupied an important position in Indian Census in some form or the other from the very beginning. The statistics collected on literacy and educational level of the population are of vital importance for measuring the progress of literacy as also for effecting further improvements in the spread of education among the population. In the population census conducted every ten years, certain basic information about each individual is gathered. Whether the individual is literate or not is an important question at every census The population can therefore, be divided into literate and illiterate every ten years and the progress of literacy properly assessed.

Though India is relatively backward in respect of literacy in comparison to advanced countries such as U.S.A., U.S.S.R., Japan, etc. In relation to some other countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, our achievement after independence has been noteworthy. However, considerable variation is observed in the level of literacy among various states/union territories. Table No. V.1 gives the literacy rates of India, its states and union territories as obtained in 1981 Census of India. States and Union Territories are arranged according to their ranks in literacy rates.

TABLE V.1

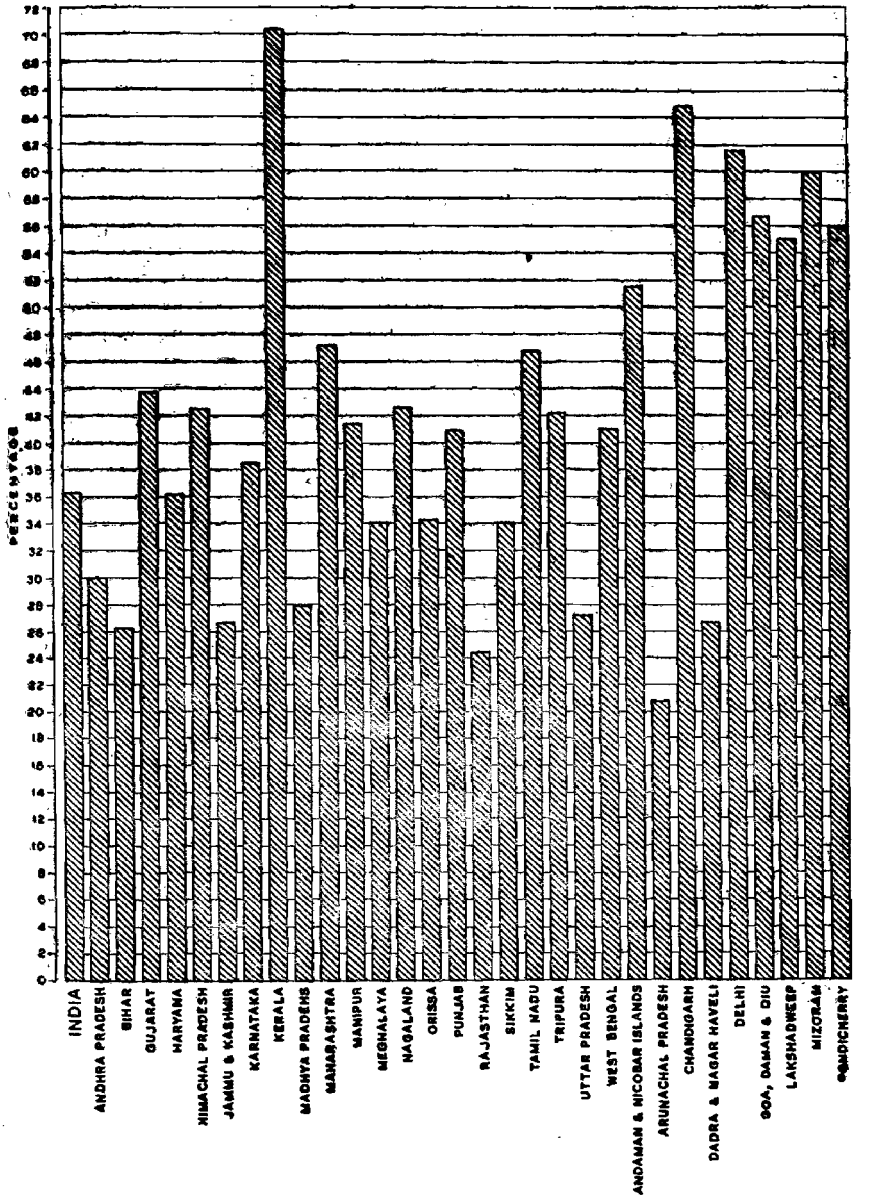
Rank in Literacy

State/Union Territory	Percentage of literates to total population	Rank
1	2	3
INDIA*	36.23	
1. Kerala	70.42	1
2. Chandigarh	64.79	2
3. Delhi	61.54	3
4. Mizoram	59.88	4
5. Goa, Daman & Diu	56.66	5
6. Pondicherry	55.85	6
7. Lakshadweep	55.07	7
8. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	51.56	8
9. Maharashtra	47.18	9
10. Tamil Nadu	46.76	10
11. Gujarat	43.70	11
12. Nagaland	42.57	12
13. Himachal Pradesh	42.48	13
14. Tripura	42.12	14
15. Manipur	41.35	15
16. West Bengal	40.94	16
17. Punjab	40.86	17
18. Karnataka	38.46	18
19. Haryana	36.14	19
20. Orissa	34.23	20
21. Meghalaya	34.08	21
22. Sikkim	34.05	22
23. Andhra Pradesh	29.94	23
24. Madhya Pradesh	27.87	24
25. Uttar Pradesh	27.16	25
26. Jammu & Kashmir†	26.67	26
27. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	26.67	27
28. Bihar	26.20	28
29. Rajasthan	24.38	29
30. Arunachal Pradesh	20.79	30

*Excludes Assam where census could not be held owing to disturbed conditions prevailing there at the time of 1981 Census.

†Excludes the population of area under unlawful occupation of Pakistan and China where census could not be taken.

LITERACY IN INDIA AND STATES/UNION TERRITORIES 1981



According to the 1981 Census, the rate of literacy in our state is 34.05 as against 36.23 per cent in the whole country. Sikkim state with 34.05 per cent of its population returned as literate in 1981, ranks 22nd on the literacy map of the country. The first three are Kerala, with a literacy of 70.42 per cent, Chandigarh with a literacy of 64.79 per cent and Delhi with a literacy of 61.54 per cent. At the lower rank among states and union territories having a literacy level below the national level were Haryana (36.14), Orissa (34.23), Meghalaya (34.08), Sikkim (34.05), Andhra Pradesh (29.94), Madhya Pradesh (27.87), Uttar Pradesh (27.16), Jammu & Kashmir (26.67), Dadra & Nagar Haveli (26.67), Bihar (26.20), Rajasthan (24.38) and Arunachal Pradesh (20.79). The rest of the states and union territories are above the national average, which is 36.23 per cent.

Sikkim is not lagging much behind the all India average literacy rate of 36.23 per cent in 1981, but it is far behind the literacy rate of Kerala, Chandigarh and Delhi.

Table No. V.2 gives literacy rates for total persons, males and females separately for India and its states and union territories.

TABLE V.2

Literacy rate (including population in age group 0—4)

State/Union Territory	Literacy rate		
	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
INDIA*† . . .	36.23	46.89	24.82
1. Andhra Pradesh . .	29.94	39.26	20.39
2. Bihar	26.20	38.11	13.62
3. Gujarat	43.70	54.44	32.30
4. Haryana	36.14	48.20	22.27

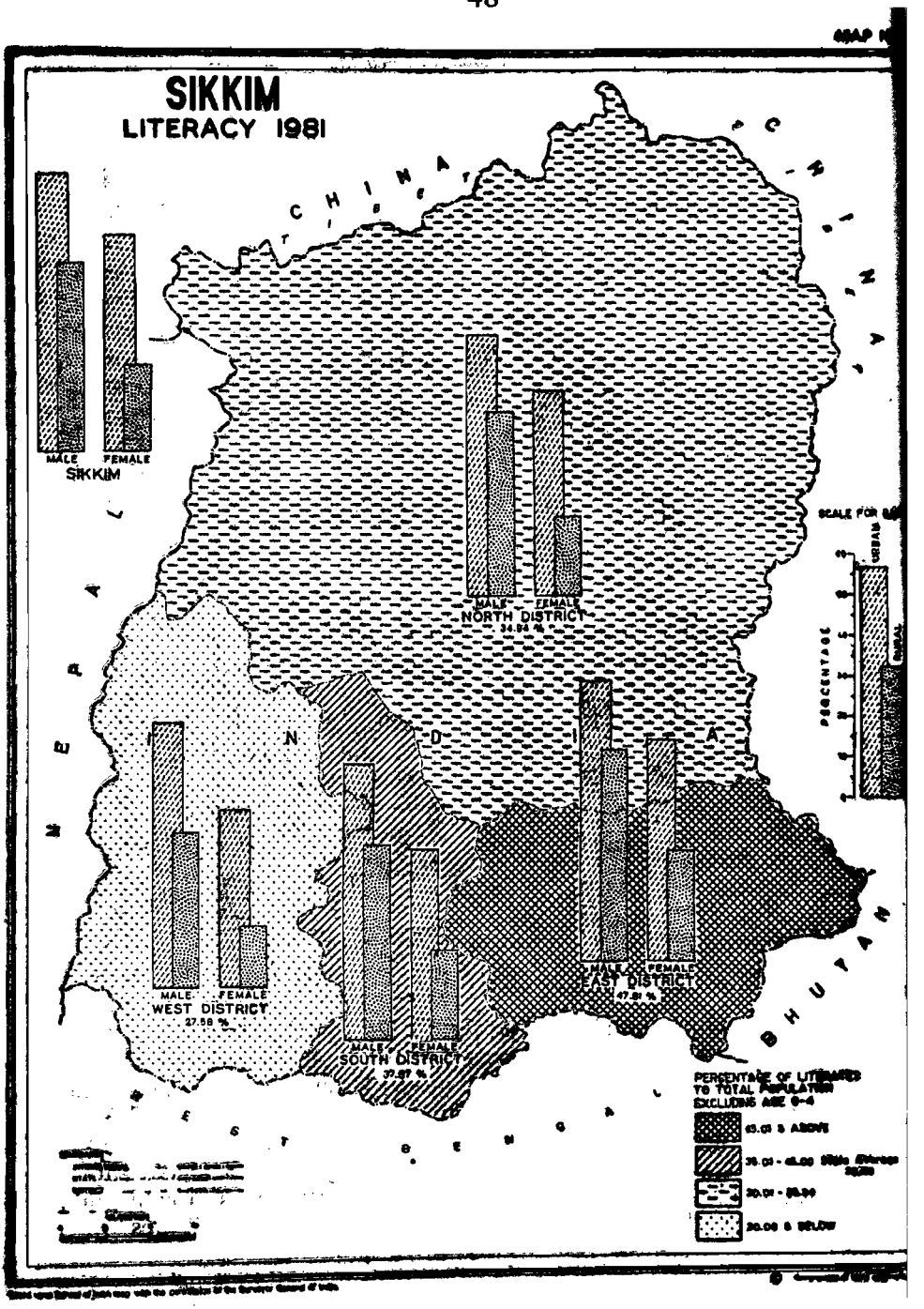
TABLE V.2—*contd.*

1	2	3	4
5. Himachal Pradesh . .	42.48	53.19	31.46
6. Jammu & Kashmir† . .	26.67	36.29	15.88
7. Karnataka . . .	38.46	48.81	27.71
8. Kerala	70.42	75.26	65.73
9. Madhya Pradesh . .	27.87	39.49	15.53
10. Maharashtra . . .	47.18	58.79	34.79
11. Manipur	41.35	53.29	29.06
12. Meghalaya . . .	34.08	37.89	30.08
13. Nagaland	42.57	50.06	33.89
14. Orissa	34.23	47.10	21.12
15. Punjab	40.86	47.16	33.69
16. Rajasthan	24.38	36.30	11.42
17. Sikkim	34.05	43.95	22.20
18. Tamil Nadu . . .	46.76	58.26	34.99
19. Tripura	42.12	51.70	32.00
20. Uttar Pradesh . . .	27.16	38.76	14.04
21. West Bengal . . .	40.94	50.67	30.25
22. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	51.56	58.72	42.14
23. Arunachal Pradesh . .	20.79	28.94	11.32
24. Chandigarh . . .	64.79	69.00	59.31
25. Dadra & Nagar Haveli .	26.67	36.32	16.78
26. Delhi	61.54	68.40	53.07
27. Goa, Daman & Diu . .	56.66	65.59	47.56
28. Lakshadweep . . .	55.07	65.24	44.65
29. Mizoram	59.88	64.46	54.91
30. Pondicherry . . .	55.85	65.84	45.71

*Excludes Assam where census could not be held owing to disturbed conditions prevailing there at the time of 1981 Census.

†Excludes the population of area under unlawful occupation of Pakistan and China where census could not be taken.

Among the states, Kerala 70.42, Tamil Nadu 46.76 and Maharashtra 47.18 have recorded the highest, and Rajasthan 24.38, Bihar 26.20 and Jammu & Kashmir 26.67 had the lowest percentage of literacy in that order. The Union Territories, with the exception of Arunachal Pradesh and Dadra & Nagar Haveli have registered more than 51 per cent literates. The highest percentage of literates was found in Chandigarh, 64.79 per cent among the Union Territories.


SIKKIM
LITERACY 1981
CHINA
NEPAL
BHUTAN
WEST BENGAL
MALE
FEMALE
SIKKIM
MALE
FEMALE
NORTH DISTRICT
MALE
FEMALE
WEST DISTRICT
37.58 %
MALE
FEMALE
SOUTH DISTRICT
MALE
FEMALE
EAST DISTRICT
47.81 %
PERCENTAGE
PERCENTAGE OF LITERATES TO TOTAL POPULATION EXCLUDING AGE 0-4
20.00 & BELOW

Percentage of literacy has shown variation amongst the two sexes, in all parts of our country. Sikkim state has 107,738 persons as literates in a population of 316,385. 75,779 males out of 172,440 and 31,959 females out of 143,945 are literates. In our state lower literacy has been observed among the females. Male literacy rate is almost double than that of females. Customs and traditions in most parts of our state confined females to the domestic activities. For the country as a whole, female literates constitute 24.82 per cent of the female population while male literates constitute 46.89 per cent of the male population. At national level also, male literacy rate is nearly twice that of females. In certain states like Bihar, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, male literacy rate is about three times the literacy rate of females. The difference in the literacy proportions of males and females in this state as well as other parts of Indian Union indicates that female education has a long way to go and that further schemes for women education are required.

Growth of literacy among states

The growth rate of literacy in the country during the decade 1971—81 is 23.02 per cent which is slightly more than the growth rate of literacy for the decade 1961—71. Some of the states have made fairly quick progress in literacy. Nagaland had a growth rate of literacy of 55.36 per cent, Tripura 35.96 per cent, Jammu & Kashmir 43.54 per cent and Haryana 34.40 per cent during the decade 1971—81. But in Sikkim there has been a spectacular rise of 91.94 per cent during the decade 1971—81 which is highest in the country.

TABLE V.3

Growth of literacy in the states during 1961 —71 and 1971—81

Country/State	Rate of growth of literacy (per cent)	
	1961—71	1971—81
1	2	3
INDIA	22.65	23.02
1. Andhra Pradesh . .	15.95	21.86
2. Bihar	8.37	31.39
3. Gujarat	17.54	22.10

TABLE V.3—*contd.*

1	2	3
4. Haryana	34.92	34.40
5. Himachal Pradesh	50.33	32.92
6. Jammu & Kashmir	68.45	43.54
7. Kerala	28.96	16.55
8. Karnataka	24.00	22.02
9. Madhya Pradesh	29.25	25.88
10. Maharashtra	31.39	20.42
11. Manipur	8.19	25.65
12. Meghalaya	9.59	15.56
13. Nagaland	52.99	55.36
14. Orissa	20.87	30.75
15. Punjab	25.92	21.35
16. Rajasthan	25.38	27.84
17. Sikkim	43.88	91.94
18. Tamil Nadu	25.63	18.50
19. Tripura	53.06	35.96
20. Uttar Pradesh	23.02	25.16
21. West Bengal	13.39	23.31

Note :—Excludes Assam where census was not held owing to disturbed conditions prevailing there at the time of 1981 Census.

In this development era, it is but natural to expect increase in literacy due to increase in educational facilities. Sikkim is also developing fast and hence literacy is also increasing. In 1981, percentage of literates to total population in this state was 34.05 per cent as against 17.74 per cent in 1971. This substantial increase in literacy is essentially due to increase in educatonal facilities.

Growth of literacy in districts

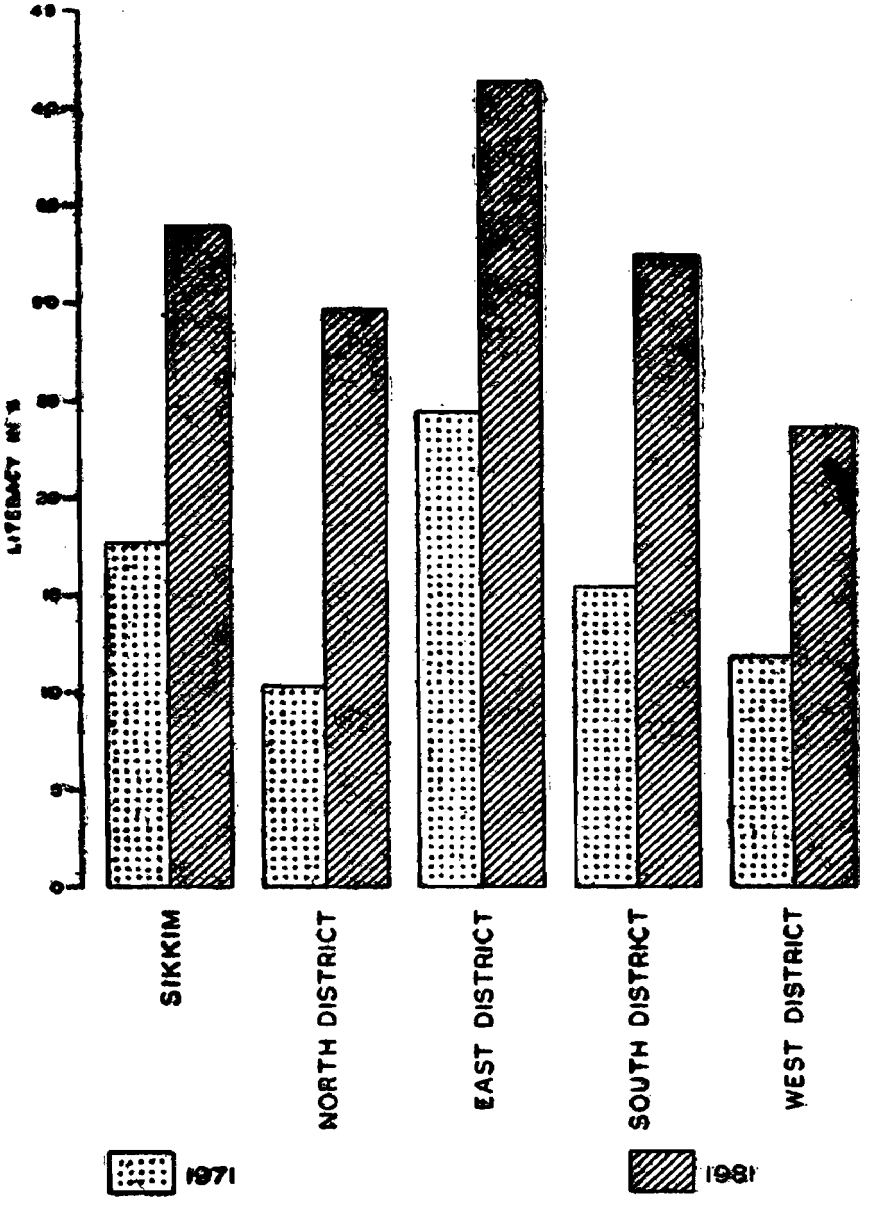
Table V.4 gives the percentage of literacy at the censuses of 1971 and 1981 for Sikkim and its districts.

TABLE V.4

Literacy rates in 1971 *and* 1981 *in Sikkim and its districts*

State/Distt.	Literacy rate (Per cent)					
	1971			1981		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
SIKKIM	17.74	25.37	8.90	34.05	43.95	22.20
North	10.30	15.92	3.70	29.74	39.97	16.78
East	24.42	32.39	14.35	41.39	50.64	29.77
South	15.39	22.59	7.48	32.49	43.09	20.06
West	11.77	19.01	4.00	23.62	33.20	13.04

LITERACY RATES IN 1971 AND 1981



As noted earlier, the percentage of literacy in Sikkim as recorded in the 1981 Census is 34.05 as against 17.74 per cent in 1971 census which shows a significant increase in the literacy rate. In 1961 the literacy rate in the state was only 12 per cent which shows that in terms of proportion of literate population to the total population, Sikkim has made tremendous improvement in its position during the last two decades. In Sikkim in 1971, 25 men out of 100 were literate. In the 1981 census 44 men out of 100 are literate. There is thus an improvement to the extent of 19 persons per 100 persons among the males. In actual figures, the literacy among the men has risen from 25.37 per cent to 43.95 per cent, thereby making an increase of 17.58 in terms of percentage points. As regards women, 9 out of every 100 women in the state were literates in 1971. As compared to this, 22 women out of every 100 women are literate in 1981 Census. This marks an increase of 13 percentage points in the decade. It is, therefore, encouraging to note that literacy has grown rapidly in the females during the decade 1971—81. Considering the traditional slow rate at which female literacy in India has increased, the improvement made by the Sikkimese females as regard to literacy is quite encouraging.

At the level of individual districts, the East district is having the highest percentage of literacy, i.e. 41.39 per cent in 1981. It is followed by South District with 32.49 per cent. West district is having the lowest literacy, i.e. 23.62 per cent in 1981 census. North district is having literacy of 29.74 per cent. Similar pattern has also been observed for male and female literacy in all the four districts. Male literacy, however, is substantially higher i.e. 43.95 per cent as against female literacy of 22.20 per cent in 1981.

Increase in literacy in North and South districts is more than doubled during the decade 1971—81. In West district also it is almost doubled. Similarly, the female literacy in these districts as well as in East district has been more than doubled during the same decade.

Literacy in Towns of Sikkim

The literacy among the urban population is generally high with 54.86 per cent compared to the rural with 30.05 per

cent. We may now take a cross section of the towns in Sikkim and study the literacy rates. 55 persons out of every 100 living in the towns of Sikkim can read and write.

There are eight towns in Sikkim and five of them are classified as class VI towns according to their population size. The only Gangtok Municipal Corporation has been able to get its position as class III town.

The level of literacy is highest in the class III town where 56.88 per cent of the population is literate. Gangtok Town is the capital of the state which abounds in government offices and commercial centres. It can be seen that Mangan the only town in North district has recorded 54.23 per cent literacy rate. In East district, as already noted, Gangtok the capital town as expected, is having the highest literacy, followed by singtam showing a literacy rate of 51.05 per cent and Rangpo 42.94 per cent. In South district Namchi town has registered a literacy rate of 56.09 per cent and Jorethang 49.66 per cent. Gyalshing town in West district has shown a literacy rate of 54.50 per cent, followed by Nayabazar 44.12 per cent.

The differential in the literacy rate of towns in this state is not large. Highest literacy rate in the state is 56.88 per cent observed in Gangtok town and the lowest in Rangpo town.

TABLE V.5

Literacy rates for towns

Name of Town	Percentage of literates to total population		
	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
1. Mangan	54.23	59.38	44.40
2. Gangtok Municipal Corporation	56.88	62.92	48.47
3. Singtam	51.05	58.20	39.61
4. Rangpo	42.94	51.32	29.47
5. Namchi	56.09	64.73	44.48
6. Jorethang	49.66	58.90	35.60
7. Gyalshing	54.50	60.30	45.07
8. Nayabazar	44.12	55.13	29.31

Table V.5 shows that in every town male literacy rate exceeded female literacy rate by a considerable margin. Rangpo and Nayabazar have the lowest literacy among the towns. These two towns occupy the lowest position in male as well as female literacy. Among females, literacy in urban areas of our state is 45.42 per cent. The literacy rates are uniformly higher for males as compared to those for females in all the states and union territories of India. The wide variation in the literacy rate between the two sexes is quite apparent both in India and Sikkim. On examining this aspect for different states we find that urban population of Kerala has the least literacy differential between the two sexes, the literacy rate being 80.10 per cent for males and 72.20 per cent for females. Among the union territories, Mizoram, Chandigarh and Goa, Daman & Diu have small differences in the urban literacy rate between the two sexes.

Literacy among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

Literacy rate is an important social determinant in different social groups of population. Table V.6 gives the position of literacy among the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes population as compared to the general population in the state. It may be seen from table No. V.6 that 28.06 per cent of scheduled castes and 33.13 per cent of scheduled tribes were literate. Obviously, the literacy among scheduled tribes may be well compared to that of general population (literacy rate 34.05 per cent) where as scheduled castes are lagging behind in literacy by about six percentage points as compared to general population. This is heartening to note that female literacy rate among scheduled tribes population is slightly higher than the female literacy rate of general population in Sikkim. However, female literacy rate for scheduled caste population is lower by more than 2 percentage points as compared to female literacy rate of general population in the state.

It is also interesting to note that literacy rate among urban scheduled tribe population is slightly higher than the literacy rate in urban general population in Sikkim. Higher percentage is observed in urban areas as compared to rural in the case of general population as well as scheduled caste/

scheduled tribe population. Males have higher percentage of literacy compared to females in all the general/scheduled caste/scheduled tribe population.

TABLE V.6

Percentage of literates among scheduled castes and scheduled tribes

Total/Rural/Urban	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
GENERAL			
Total	34.05	43.95	22.20
Rural	30.05	40.25	18.24
Urban	54.86	61.44	45.42
SCHEDULED CASTES			
Total	28.06	35.74	19.65
Rural	22.65	30.27	14.28
Urban	47.91	55.94	39.20
SCHEDULED TRIBES			
Total	33.13	43.10	22.37
Rural	29.14	39.44	18.09
Urban	55.84	63.43	47.32

Literates by Educational level

Table V.7 gives the proportion of population by educational level. The data have been presented for 3 educational level.

The figures for various educational levels are higher for males as compared to females. It can be observed from Table No. V.7 that the proportions for the various educational levels are higher in urban areas as compared to rural areas. This holds good for both males and females. This difference becomes marked for males in the higher educational level.

Sikkim, despite its high level of literacy i.e. 34.05 per cent, has the lowest proportion of literates in the non-technical diploma or certificate not equal to degree and above categories. The mass education system need not have a high proportion of students going on to higher educational level. The low proportion in the higher educational level may be attributed to the fact that there were very few high schools and Higher Secondary Schools in Sikkim. A degree college and a law college have been established in Sikkim in the very recent years. These recently established institutions may pave the way to higher educational levels for the students of Sikkim in the near future.

TABLE V.7

Proportion of Population by Educational Level

Educational level	Total			Rural			Urban		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Total Population	316,385	172,440	143,945	265,301	142,341	122,960	51,084	30,099	20,985
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Illiterate	208,647	96,661	111,986	185,587	85,054	100,533	23,060	11,607	11,453
	65.95%	56.05%	77.80%	69.95%	59.75%	81.76%	45.14%	38.56%	54.58%
Literate	107,738	75,779	31,959	79,714	57,287	22,427	28,024	18,492	9,532
	34.05%	43.95%	22.20%	30.05%	40.25%	18.24%	54.86%	61.44%	45.42%
Literates (without educational level)	44,847	30,330	14,517	38,693	26,544	12,149	6,154	3,786	2,368
	41.62%	40.03%	45.42%	48.54%	46.34%	54.17%	21.96%	20.47%	24.84%
Primary	37,457	26,902	10,555	27,791	20,475	7,316	9,666	6,427	3,239
	34.77%	35.50%	33.03%	34.87%	35.74%	32.62%	34.49%	34.76%	33.98%
Middle	10,724	7,580	3,144	6,523	4,814	1,709	4,201	2,766	1,435
	9.95%	10.00%	9.84%	8.18%	8.40%	7.62%	14.99%	14.96%	15.06%
Matriculation/Secondary	7,926	5,718	2,208	3,988	3,112	876	3,938	2,606	1,332
	7.36%	7.55%	6.91%	5.00%	5.43%	3.91%	14.05%	14.09%	13.98%
Higher Secondary/Intermediate/Pre-University	3,532	2,695	837	1,492	1,233	259	2,040	1,462	578
	3.28%	3.56%	2.62%	1.87%	2.15%	1.16%	7.28%	7.91%	6.06%
Non-technical diploma or Certificate not equal to degree	3	3	—	2	2	—	1	1	—
	0.00%	NIL		NIL	0.01%		NIL	NIL	
Technical diploma or Certificate not equal to degree	276	269	7	117	114	3	159	155	4
	0.26%	0.35%	0.02%	0.15%	0.20%	0.01%	0.57%	0.84%	0.04%
Graduate and above	2,973	2,282	691	1,108	993	115	1,865	1,289	576
	2.76%	3.01%	2.16%	1.39%	1.73%	0.51%	6.66%	6.97%	6.04%

CHAPTER VI

LANGUAGE SPOKEN

In the 1981 Census, a new question on the 'Language mainly spoken in the Household' was asked in the Household Schedule along with the two usual language questions on 'mother tongue' and 'other languages known' in the Individual Slip. The institutional households which are linguistically heterogeneous and may or may not have a uniform household language are excluded from this data. Out of the total population of 316,385 in the state, the institutional population is only 8,123 constituting 2.57 per cent.

Question 5 on 'language mainly spoken in the household' in the Household Schedule was canvassed in all the households other than institutional households. The raw returns were rather unusually large. All these returns were scrutinized following usual linguistic methods including studying 'Language specimens' and undertaking field investigations.

The distribution of the 1981 household population by languages grouped into scheduled languages and languages other than scheduled are shown in alphabetical order in parts A and B of table 1.

TABLE VI—PART A

Statement showing the speakers of household population by language mainly spoken in the Household (inclusive of variants grouped under each) specified in Schedule VIII to the Constitution of India.

Language	Number of speakers
Assamese	62
Bengali	1,683
Gujarati	42
Hindi	14,961
Kannada	30
Kashmiri	15
Malayalam	577
Marathi	54
Oriya	88
Punjabi	489
Sanskrit	—
Sindhi	4
Tamil	133
Telugu	154
Urdu	1,278

TABLE VI—PART B

Statement showing the speakers of Household population by language mainly spoken in the household (inclusive of variants where grouped) other than those specified in Schedule VIII to the Constitution of India

Language	Number of speakers
Bhutia	21,548
Dogri	21
English	54
Garo	9
Gorkhali/Nepali	192,891
Kharia	1
Khasi	15
Kurukh/Oraon	15
Lepcha	22,391
Limbu	17,922
Lushai/Mizo	37
Manipuri/Maithili	6
Munda	4
Santali	4
Sherpa	10,726
Tibetan	4,149
Other languages	18,899

Out of the total population (excluding institutional household population) of 308,262 in the state, 19,570 are the speakers of Schedule VIII languages constituting 6.35 per cent and 288,692 are the speakers of other langauges constituting 93.65 per cent to total household population.

In both parts A and B of the table, variants have been grouped in some cases under the relevant languages. This has been done on the basis of linguistic information readily available or in the light of studies already made. These identifiable

variants which returned 10,000 or more speakers each at all-India level and have been grouped under parts A and B languages are shown below :—

PART A

HINDI : Bhojpuri; Garhwali; Kumauni; Magadhi/ Magahi; Maithili; Marwari; Rajasthani; Sadan/ Sadri.

All other returns falling under Part B and which returned less than 10,000 speakers each at the All India level or were not linguistically identifiable are included in the category 'others' occuring as the last entry in Part B.

CHAPTER VII

THE RELIGIONS WE FOLLOW

Religion is an important and perhaps the basic cultural characteristic of the population. In a secular state like India several religions have thrived and every decennial census provides an interesting picture of the religious persuasions of the people. The data on religion yielded by the census are of great interest to the public as well as to the scholars. It is of particular importance in our country because we have many faiths and our civilisation is closely linked to religion.

Our country abounds in religions but the most important religions from the point of view of preponderance are six, viz. Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists and Jains. Religions other than the six mentioned above have been compiled under the head "other religions and persuasions."

Religion data are based on Household Schedules in respect of normal and houseless Households and on Individual Slip in respect of institutional households.

The number of persons who follow different religions and faiths in India are given below :

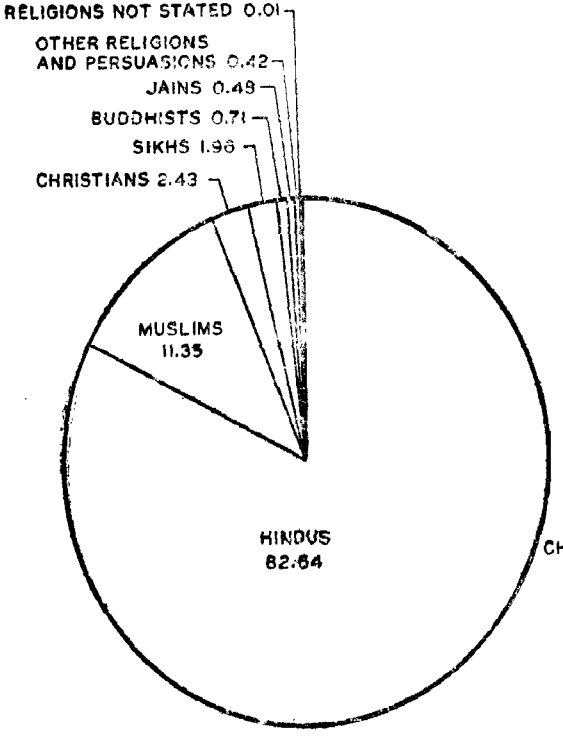
TABLE VII.1

Religious composition of India's population

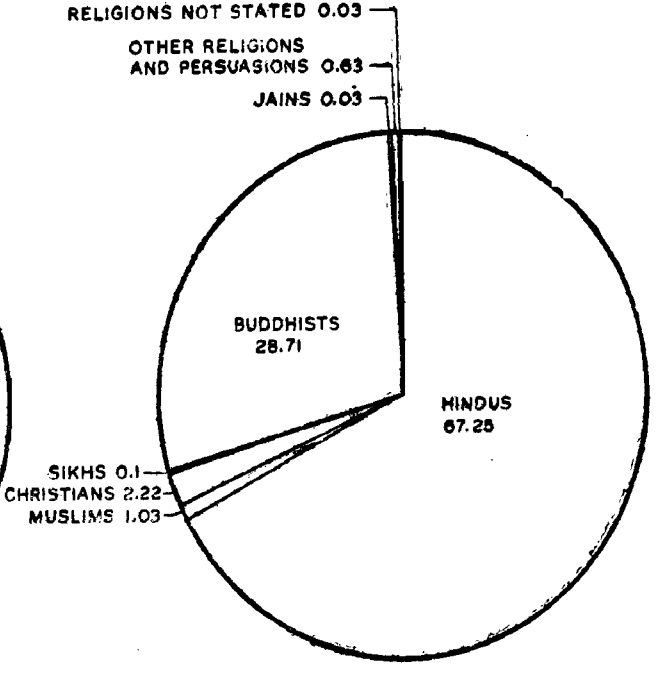
Name of Religion	Population*	Proportion to total population (percent)
1	2	3
Hindus	549,779,481	82.64
Muslims	75,512,439	11.35
Christians	16,165,447	2.43
Sikhs	13,078,146	1.96
Buddhists	4,719,796	0.71
Jains	3,206,038	0.48
Other religions and persuasions	2,766,285	0.42
Religion not stated	60,217	0.01

*Excludes Assam where census could not be conducted due to disturbed conditions prevailing there then.

RELIGIOUS COMPOSITION OF POPULATION IN INDIA AND SIKKIM



INDIA



SIKKIM

It would be seen from table VII-1 that Hindus constitute the largest single majority recording a percentage of 82.64. Muslims rank Second and return a percentage of 11.35. Had population of Assam been counted the Muslim proportion would have been higher as they constituted one-third of population in 1971 census in that state. Between themselves these two religions account for 93.99 per cent of the total national population. The other two religions that contribute to the population to an appreciable extent are Christians and Sikhs with 2.43 per cent and 1.96 per cent respectively. That is to say nearly 83 out of every one hundred Indians are Hindus, about eleven Muslims, a little more than two Christians, nearly two Sikhs and nearly one Buddhist.

In Sikkim the proportion of population claimed by each of these religions is slightly different from the pattern observed at the national level. While 0.71 per cent of the total national population is Buddhist, in Sikkim this proportion is 28.71 per cent. This means that as compared to the national population where 7 persons out of every 1,000 are Buddhists, in the State population nearly 290 persons out of every 1000 are Buddhists. The followers of Hinduism in Sikkim are 67.25 per cent and they form the majority in the state. It can, however, be noted that the proportion of Hindus in Sikkim is significantly lower than the country as a whole. The same is the case with Muslims. 1.03 per cent of the total population of the state is Muslim as compared to 11.35 per cent at the national level. The Sikhs and Jains in Sikkim are the smaller minorities. They account for 0.10 per cent and 0.03 per cent respectively of the state population. Other religions and persuasions also accounted for 0.63 per cent and the proportion of those not stating any religion at all was 0.03 per cent. Christians form the third largest religious community with

2.22 per cent in Sikkim. The proportion of Christian population is slightly higher in India (2.43%) as compared to Sikkim.

TABLE VII.2

Religious composition of Sikkim

Name of Religion	Population	Percentage to total population
1	2	3
Hindus	212,780	67.25
Muslims	3,241	1.03
Christians	7,015	2.22
Sikhs	322	0.10
Buddhists	90,848	28.71
Jains	108	0.03
Other religions and persuasions .	1,987	0.63
Religion not stated . . .	84	0.03

Let us now examine the religious composition of the population of districts. Table VII.3 shows the percentage of population of each religion to total population of the state and districts as revealed in 1981 census. Since Hinduism is the predominant faith and differs by a vast margin from the second most predominant religion, it follows that this predominance in numbers will be reflected in the districts as well.

Table VII.3 gives the percentage distribution of population of Sikkim and its districts by religion.

TABLE VII.3

Percentage distribution of population of each religious community among districts

State/district	Hindus	Muslims	Christians	Sikhs	Buddhists	Jains	Others	Religion not stated
SIKKIM	67.25	1.03	2.22	0.10	28.71	0.03	0.63	0.03
North	35.59	0.54	1.86	0.08	61.63	0.07	0.04	0.19
East	68.33	1.52	2.34	0.19	27.42	0.07	0.13	N
South	71.40	0 86	2.76	0.03	24.90	N	0.04	0.01
West	72.22	0.46	1.56	0.02	23.37	—	2 35	0.02

NOTE : N—Negligible.

Hindus are in majority in all the districts of Sikkim except North. But they are more than two-third at State level as also in East, South and West districts. In North district however, Buddhists with 61.63 per cent population form the majority.

Buddhism is the second numerically largest religion in Sikkim. 28.71 per cent of Sikkim's population is Buddhists as against the much lower national figure of 0.71 per cent. Buddhists are found mostly in the North district as observed earlier. The followers of Buddhism in East district account for 27.42 per cent of the district population. South district comes next with 24.90 per cent, closely followed by West district with 23.37 per cent. In all the four districts, the percentage of population of Buddhists is much higher than the all India percentage of 0.71.

Christianity claims the third largest following in the population of state as well as districts. At the state level the proportion of Christianity is 2.22 per cent which is slightly lower than the all India percentage of 2.43 per cent. South district heads the list with 2.76 per cent of its people being Christians. The district with 2nd highest proportion of Christian population is East where 2.34 per cent of the people follow this religion. West district shows the lowest figure of 1.56 per cent. The proportion of Christians in North district is 1.86 per cent.

Islam, Sikhism and Jainism have very limited following in Sikkim. The highest percentage of Muslims is only 1.52 per cent observed in East district. In case of Sikhism, the proportion is below 1 per cent in all the four districts. As regards Jainism, in none of the districts the proportion exceeds 0.07 per cent. South district recorded negligible figure for Jainism and the West district does not indicate Jains in the district.

0.63 per cent of the population in the state follow other religions and persuasions. This group mostly consists of people of West district who follow different local religions like Yumasang etc. The proportion of those under 'Religion not stated' is 0.03 per cent which is substantially higher then India's 0.01 per cent.

Distribution of religions in rural and urban areas of the state

The distribution of population of religious communities in rural and urban areas of the state is given in table VII.4.

TABLE VII.4

Distribution of religions in the rural and urban areas of Sikkim

Religious communities	Percentage to rural population	Percentage to urban population
1	2	3
All Religions	100.00	100.00
Hindus	67.66	65.14
Muslims	0.57	3.38
Christians	1.93	3.73
Sikhs	0.06	0.30
Buddhists	29.03	27.10
Jains	0.01	0.18
Other religions & pursuasions	0.71	0.15
Religion not stated	0.03	0.02

Table VII.4 shows that the proportion of Hindus and Buddhists is slightly higher in rural areas than their proportion in urban areas. The same is true for other religions and persuasions and religion not stated. Christians, Sikhs, Muslims and Jains are however, comparatively concentrated in urban areas.

The religious composition in the districts by rural and urban areas is given in table VII.5. As already seen, Hindus are the most dominant religious community in both rural and urban parts of the state except the North district. Christians, the second largest religious group has firm footing in the urban areas with 3.73 per cent of the urban population as against 1.93 per cent of the rural areas.

The urban sector of West district has a highest proportion of Hindus (78.49%). The difference in the Hindus proportion between urban and rural areas is not very significant in this district. The rural areas of West district recorded 72.08 per cent Hindus.

TABLE VII.5

Districtwise distribution of religions by rural and urban areas of Sikkim

State/Distt.	Percentage of total population							
	Hindus		Muslims		Christians		Sikhs	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
SIKKIM	67.66	65.14	0.57	3.38	1.93	3.73	0.06	0.30
North	34.90	58.21	0.45	3.72	1.78	4.74	0.09	—
East	70.60	63.31	0.90	2.88	1.71	3.74	0.13	0.34
South	71.00	76.66	0.42	6.62	2.65	4.29	0.02	0.09
West	72.08	78.49	0.33	5.83	1.57	1.18	0.02	0.06

TABLE VII.5—*contd.*

State/Distt.	Percentage of total population							
	Buddhists		Jains		Other religions & persuasions		Religion not stated	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
1	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
SIKKIM	29.03	27.10	00.1	0.18	0.71	0.15	0.03	0.02
North	62.57	30.90	N	2.18	0.04	—	0.17	0.25
East	26.54	29.38	0.02	0.17	0.10	0.18	N	N
South	25.86	12.15	—	0.02	0.04	0.09	0.01	0.08
West	23.58	14.38	—	—	2.40	—	0.02	0.06

N—Negligible.

The Muslim, Sikh and Jain population is insignificant in the rural areas of all the four districts while urban areas have a sizeable population of these religions. As regards Buddhism, all the four districts have a significant Buddhist population. As compared to other three districts of the state, the number of Buddhists is highest in both the rural and urban areas of North district where 62.57 per cent of Buddhists live in rural areas and 30.90 per cent in urban areas. Christians on the other hand, are found in comparatively more significant proportion in urban area of the districts than that of rural areas. However, the rural areas of West district have recorded 1.57 per cent of Christians as against 1.18 per cent in urban parts. It may be noted here that Hindus are in majority in urban areas of North district where Buddhists form majority in the district as a whole.

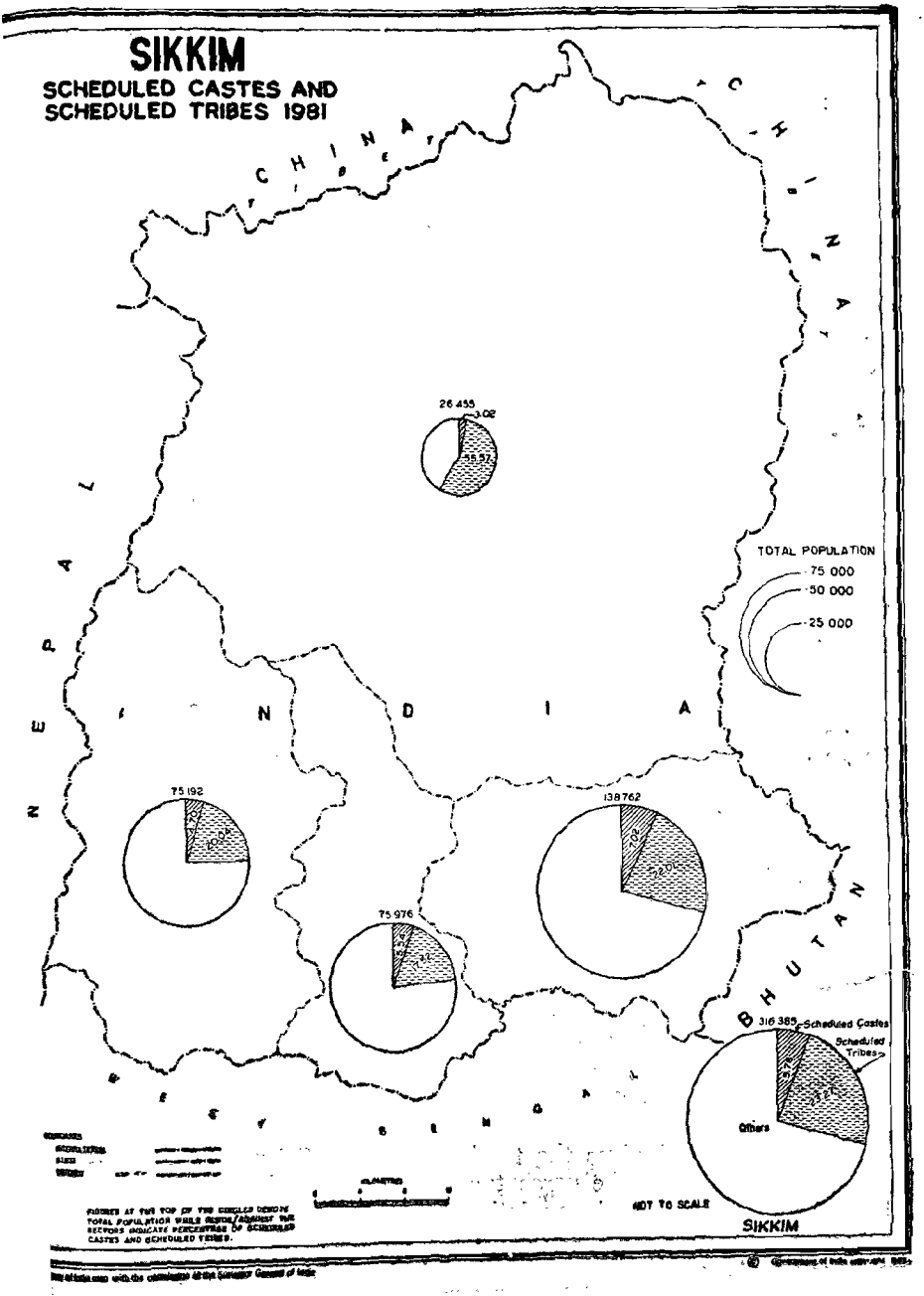
CHAPTER VIII

SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

It is a well known fact that India is divided into many small groups and sub-groups which have in its fold many castes and communities, tribes and sects, religions and faiths. The system of castes is a very old social institution of our country. For ages many groups belonging to the low castes suffered various socio-economic and political disabilities in the hands of the other groups which are considered higher in status. The constitution of India has provided safeguards to these weaker sections of the population. Similarly, on the other hand, tribes are supposed to be the oldest inhabitants of the country. Since they live in isolation and generally do not come in contact with the population living in other areas, they have retained a distinct culture of their own and a way of living which is entirely different from the non-tribal people. Because of their isolation they have remained backward materially as well as socially. The constitution of India have provision to protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation. In article 341 and 342 of the constitution, the President of India is empowered to specify the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for each state and Union Territory. Under these provisions, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are listed under a Presidential Order for each state or local area.

According to the definition of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes given in the Constitution of India, the term "Scheduled Castes" refers to such castes, races, tribes or parts of or groups within such castes, races or tribes as are declared to be scheduled castes by the President of India under Article 341 of the Constitution of India. The term 'Scheduled Tribes' means such tribes or tribal communities as are declared to be Scheduled Tribes by the President of India under Article 342 of the Constitution of India.

The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Sikkim as listed in the Constitution (Sikkim) Scheduled Castes and


SIKKIM
SCHEDULED CASTES AND
SCHEDULED TRIBES 1981
CHINA
TIBET
NEPAL
INDIA
BHUTAN
BENGAL
26 455
3.02
75 192
75 976
138 762
316 385
Scheduled Castes
Scheduled Tribes
Others
TOTAL POPULATION
75 000
50 000
25 000
KILOMETRES
NOT TO SCALE
SIKKIM

Scheduled Tribes Order, 1978 are noted below. It may be noted that Scheduled castes are recognised only among Hindus and Sikhs while the members of Scheduled Tribes may belong to any religion.

List of Scheduled Castes

1. Damai (Nepali).
2. Kami (Nepali), Lohar (Nepali).
3. Majhi (Nepali).
4. Sarki (Nepali).

List of Scheduled Tribes

1. Bhutia (including Chumbipa, Dopthapa, Dukpa, Kagatey, Sherpa, Tibetan, Trompa, Yolmo).
2. Lepcha.

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Population in Sikkim

The total population of scheduled castes in Sikkim according to 1981 Census is 18,281. This makes 5.78 per cent of the total population of the state and is quite lower than the corresponding figure of 15.75 per cent for India as a whole. The scheduled tribes are 73,623 in number and constitute 23.27 per cent of the total population of the state. The corresponding all India proportion is 7.76 per cent only.

The highest proportion of scheduled castes population is observed in East district (7.07%) and the lowest proportion of scheduled castes is witnessed in North district (3.02%). In the remaining districts viz,. South and West, the proportion of scheduled castes is somewhat close to the state average. Next to East is the South district contributing 5.54% to the total population of the district.

Table VIII.1 gives the total population, SC population, ST population and the percentage of SC population and ST population to the total population of Sikkim and its districts.

TABLE VIII.1

The distribution of scheduled caste and scheduled tribe population in Sikkim and its districts and their proportion to the total population.

State/Distt.	Population			Percentage to total population	
	Total population	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes
1	2	3	4	5	6
Sikkim . .	316,385	18,281	73,623	5.78	23.27
North . . .	26,455	800	14,702	3.02	55.57
East . . .	138,762	9,740	30,540	7.02	22.01
South . . .	75,976	4,207	13,310	5.54	17.52
West . . .	75,192	3,534	15,071	4.70	20.04

As noted earlier, the population of scheduled tribes in Sikkim is 73,623 which accounts for 23.27 per cent of the total population. This proportion is very much higher than India's 7.76 per cent. The scheduled tribes form significant proportion in North district. The scheduled tribes contained in this tribal district comprise 55.57 per cent to the total population in the district. The second highest proportion of tribal population (22.01 per cent) resides in East district, followed by West district 20.04 per cent, and South district 17.52 per cent.

Sex ratio among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

Table VIII.2 gives the sex ratio among scheduled castes, scheduled Tribes and General population in Sikkim and its districts.

TABLE VIII.2

Sex ratio among scheduled castes and scheduled Tribes population

State/Distt.	Total Rural/ Urban	General population	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes
1	2	3	4	5
Sikkim . . .	T	835	913	927
	R	864	910	934
	U	697	923	889
North . . .	T	789	818	940
	R	799	831	849
	U	523	656	827
East	T	797	903	904
	R	842	902	910
	U	703	905	893
South . . .	T	854	940	950
	R	869	932	953
	U	680	1,000	877
West	T	906	929	932
	R	912	919	934
	U	685	1,215	802

In 1981 the sex ratio of Sikkim as a whole was 835. Among Scheduled castes and scheduled tribes the sex ratio was 913 and 927 respectively. The sex ratio in urban areas in Sikkim among scheduled castes was recorded as 923 which is slightly higher than the rural sex ratio (910) as against 889 for the urban scheduled tribes of the state. The sex ratio in rural areas in respect of scheduled tribes is 949 which is higher than the urban sex ratio. A close examination of table VIII.2 reveals that the highest ratio in respect of scheduled castes is recorded in urban areas of West district (1215), followed by urban areas of South district (1000). It is evident that the urban areas of West district have shown females in preponderance over males among the scheduled castes population. The sex ratio recorded in urban areas of South district

shows that males and females are equal in number. Among the districts in the state, highest sex ratio in respect of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes is recorded in South district with 940 and 950 respectively. The lowest sex ratio in respect of scheduled castes is recorded in North district 818 and the lowest sex ratio of Scheduled tribes is seen in East district 904. If we analyse the data by rural and urban areas, we notice that the lowest sex ratio among scheduled castes is seen in urban areas of North district (656) and the lowest sex ratio among scheduled tribes is observed in urban areas of West district (802). The imbalance in sex ratio may be due to such factors as sex selective migration, differential in expectation of Life at birth in the two sexes etc.

The sex ratio among scheduled castes and scheduled tribes is appreciably high in comparison to general population in all the four districts. However, in all cases excess of males over females has been noticed. The sex ratio for earlier censuses e.g. 1961, 1971 etc. could not be worked out for want of Scheduled tribes population data.

TABLE VIII.3

State/Distt.	Percentage of			
	Scheduled Castes		Scheduled Tribes	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
SIKKIM .	78.58	21.42	85.06	14.94
North . .	93.38	6.62	98.35	1.65
East . .	67.40	32.60	66.76	33.24
South . .	87.07	12.93	97.14	2.86
West . . .	95.93	4.07	98.49	1.51

The scheduled tribe population is predominantly rural i.e. 85.06 per cent in the state. The rest 14.94 per cent is sprinkled in the urban areas of the state. The scheduled tribes are spread over in all the districts of the state but their proportion to the districts varies. The proportion of scheduled tribes living in urban areas is insignificant in all the districts except in East district where their proportion is 33.24 per cent to the total tribal population of the district. In Sikkim,

the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes have much higher proportion in rural areas than in urban areas. Obviously, the members of both scheduled castes and scheduled tribes have primarily a rural base. The rural proportion is 78.58 per cent for scheduled castes. In the case of districts also, the position is more or less similar. From the table, it is evident that in three districts of the state, viz., North, South and West, the rural proportion of scheduled castes is higher than the corresponding state average. In East district, the rural proportion is 67.40 per cent. This can perhaps be attributed to a large scale migration of scheduled castes being migrated to urban areas in search of employment.

In the case of scheduled tribes too, the rural proportion is much higher in all the four districts of the state. Particularly in three district, viz., North, South and West the rural proportion of scheduled tribes is 97 to 99 per cent. But in East district, the proportion of scheduled tribes in rural areas is only 66.76 per cent. A comparatively higher urban proportion in East district may be due to a sizeable number of scheduled tribes employed in various government offices in the capital city of Gangtok.

Literacy rate among the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes

The scheduled castes and tribes being socially backward, it will be interesting to look into literacy position among their members and compare it with the general population.

The literacy rate among scheduled castes is 28.06 per cent and that of the scheduled tribes is 33.13 per cent as against the literacy rate of 34.05 per cent of the general population of Sikkim. Among scheduled castes, the literacy rate is 35.74 per cent for males and 19.65 per cent for females. For scheduled tribes, the literacy rate for males and females is 43.10 per cent and 22.37 per cent respectively. It can therefore, be said that scheduled tribes are comparatively more literate than members of the scheduled castes. Even in respect of females, the literacy rate is substantially higher among scheduled tribes than scheduled castes. Table VIII.4 shows literacy rate for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes by sex.

TABLE VIII.4

Literacy rate among scheduled caste and scheduled tribes

State/Distt.	General Population			Scheduled Castes			Scheduled Tribes		
	P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
SIKKIM . . .	34.05	43.95	22.20	28.06	35.74	19.65	33.13	43.10	22.37
North . . .	29.74	39.97	16.78	26.25	33.18	17.78	30.30	42.01	17.94
East	41.39	50.64	29.77	33.57	40.95	25.40	40.18	49.50	29.88
South . . .	32.49	43.09	20.06	24.82	33.49	15.60	31.23	41.15	20.00
West	23.62	33.20	13.04	17.15	24.45	9.28	23.26	32.71	13.12

It is heartening to note that female literacy rate among scheduled tribes population is slightly higher than the female literacy rate in general population in Sikkim as also its districts except South district. However, female literacy rate for scheduled castes population is lower by more than 2 percentage points as compared to female literacy rate in general population in the state. In districts also the female literacy rate of scheduled castes population is lower by 4 to 5 percentage points except in North district where the female literacy rate of general population is lower by more than one percentage point as compared to scheduled castes population.

CHAPTER IX

HOW MANY OF US WORK ?

One of the main features of census is to collect data about occupation of each individual. It is always interesting as well as useful to know whether a person is a worker or non-worker. We also classify workers as well as non-workers into further categories.. The data on workers are helpful in analysing economic structure of the population and it also gives an idea about economic progress of the state.

Work is defined in the census as participation in any economically productive activity. Such participation may be physical or mental in nature. Work involves not only actual work but also effective supervision and direction of work. The reference period for eliciting usual work status of a person was one year preceding the date of enumeration. However, certain types of work such as agriculture, household industry, etc., are carried on either throughout the year or only during certain seasons or part of the year depending on local circumstances. In such cases the broad time span of the agricultural season was taken into consideration as the reference period.

Workers are further classified as main workers and marginal workers depending on the time spent by a worker in a year. Main workers are those who have worked for major part of the year preceding the date of enumeration and marginal workers are those who have not worked for msjor part of the preceding year but have done some work any time in the reference period. It was intended to find out how many had worked for 183 days or more, in other works for six months or more.

A person's main activity is how he or she engages himself or herself mostly. The main activity of a carpenter is making wooden articles, of a shopkeeper is selling goods, of a student is studying etc. the main activity of a person is therefore, as to how the person engages himself for most of his time. An individual is categorised as main worker, marginal worker or non-worker according to the main activity of the person.

We have already seen that a person whose main activity is participation in any economically productive work by his physical or mental ability is a worker. A person whose main activity is something that helps to produce economic goods or services, is a worker. A person whose main activity does not help to produce economic goods or services is a non-worker.

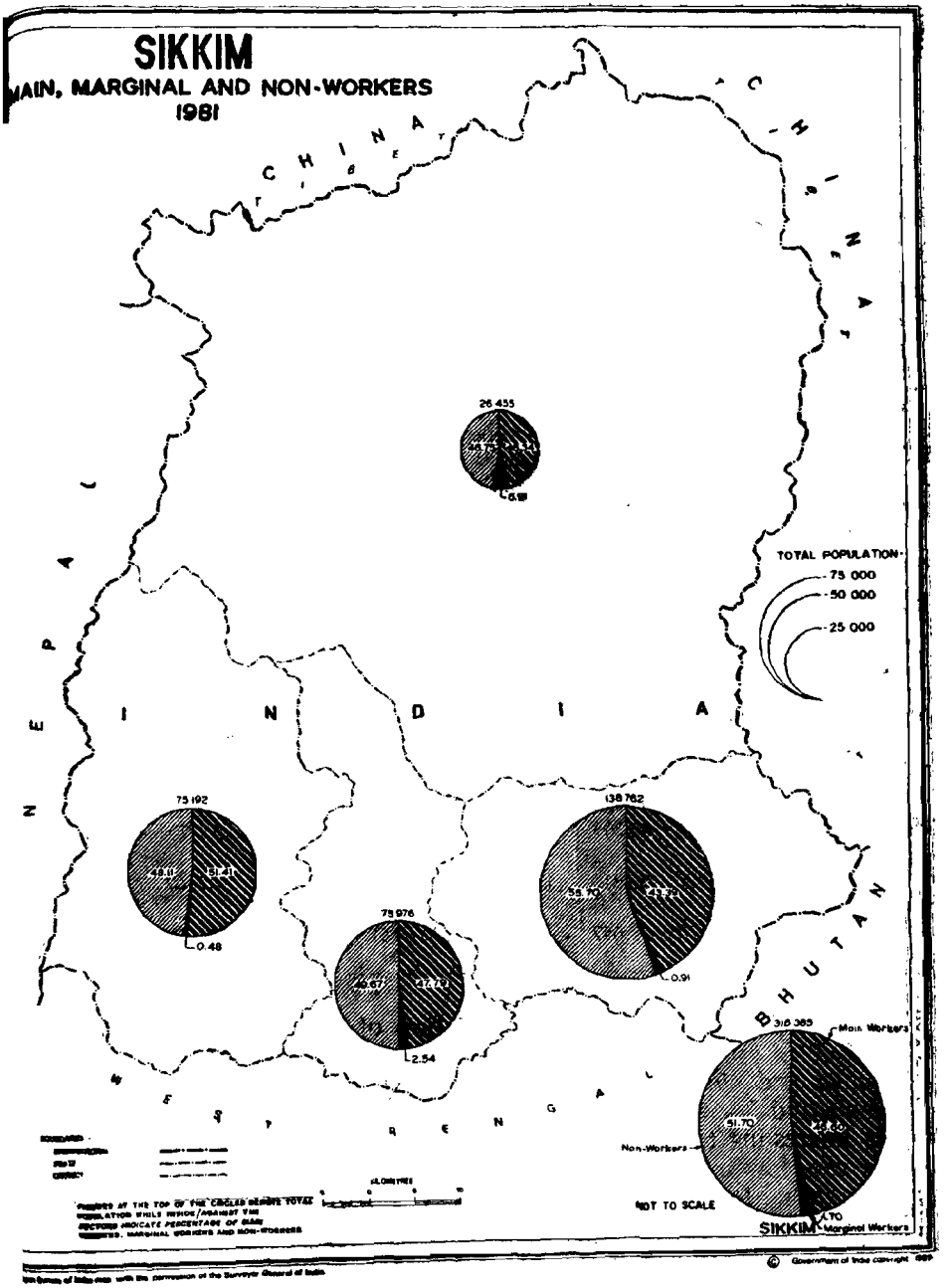
Categories of Workers and Non-workers

Workers have been broadly classified into the following industrial categories :—

Category	Description
I . . .	Cultivators.
II . . .	Agricultural Labourers.
III . . .	Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting, Plantations, Orchards and Allied activities.
IV . . .	Mining & Quarrying.
V . . .	Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs.
V(*a*) . . .	Household Industry.
V(*b*) . . .	Other than household industry.
VI . . .	Construction.
VII . . .	Trade and Commerce.
VIII . . .	Transport, Storage and Communications.
IX . . .	Other Services.

The non-working population is classified under seven broad categories as shown below :—

(i) Household duties.
(ii) Students.
(iii) Dependents.
(iv) Retired persons or rentiers.
(v) Beggars, etc.
(vi) Inmates of institutions.
(vii) Other Non-workers.


SIKKIM
MAIN, MARGINAL AND NON-WORKERS
1981
CHINA
TIBET
NEPAL
INDIA
BHUTAN
BANGLADESH
TOTAL POPULATION
75 000
50 000
25 000
26 455
75 192
138 762
75 976
316 385
Main Workers
Non-Workers
Marginal Workers
NOT TO SCALE
SIKKIM

Proportion of main workers, marginal workers and non-workers to total population.

Of the total population of 316,385 in Sikkim, 147,436 are main workers and 5,378 are marginal workers. Thus 46.60 per cent of the total population of our state is main workers, 1.70 per cent marginal workers, and the remaining 51.70 per cent non-workers. Table IX.1 represents figures of main-workers, marginal workers and non-workers.

TABLE IX.1

Main workers, Marginal workers and Non-workers in the District of Sikkim

State/District	Total population	Total main workers	Total marginal workers	Total non-workers	Percentage to total population		
					Main workers	Marginal workers	Non-workers
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
SIKKIM .	316,385	147,736	5,378	163,571	46.60	1.70	51.70
North .	26,455	12,260	1,827	12,368	46.34	6.91	46.75
East	138,762	60,209	1,264	77,289	43.39	0.91	55.70
South .	75,976	36,310	1,929	37,737	47.79	2.54	49.67
West .	75,192	38,657	358	36,177	51.41	0.48	48.11

In Sikkim out of total population of 316,385, 147,436 (46.60%) are main workers. Of the main-workers, 97,508 are males and 49.928 are females constituting 56.55 per cent of male and 34.69 per cent of female population respectively. It is interesting to note that the sex differential among workers is very low in Sikkim as compared to India and majority of the states. It is, therefore, evident that female work participation in Sikkim is quite significant.

It appears from table IX.1 that the main-workers have the highest percentage in West district (51.41%) and the lowest in East district (43.39%). In South district the percentage of main workers is higher than the state average. In Sikkim non-workers are 163,571 in number, comprising 73,768 males and 89,803 females. Thus, 51.70 per cent of the population consists of non-workers. The Highest proportion of non-workers is recorded in East district (55.70%) and the lowest in North district (46.75%). It can be observed from table IX.2 that East district accounts for the lowest percentage of main workers in the state. The Female work participation rate is particularly low in this district.

There are 5,378 (1.70%) marginal-workers in Sikkim. Out of this, 1,164 are males and 4,211 are females constituting 0.67 per cent of male and 2.92 per cent of female population respectively. The percentage of marginal-workers is higher in North district as compared to other districts. The percentage of marginal-workers in this district is 6.91 per cent, which is much higher as compared to the percentage of other districts. The percentage of marginal workers in South district (2.54%) is slightly higher as compared to the remaining two districts, viz., East and West show an insignificant percentage of marginal workers i.e., 0.91 per cent and 0.48 per cent respectively. Percentage of main-workers in each industrial category to total workers in State.

We have already seen the classification of workers into nine categories depending on their main economic activities. It would now be instructive to study the composition of the population of our state in terms of main workers under different categories. In table IX. 2, the classification of 147,436 main-workers in this state into nine broad industrial categories by sex is presented.

TABLE IX.2

Industrial classification of workers of Sikkim by sex

Category	Total workers		Male workers		Female workers	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I. Cultivators	88,610	60.10	48,907	50.16	39,703	79.52
II. Agricultural Labourers	4,887	3.31	3,361	3.45	1,526	3.06
III. Livestock, Forestry, etc.	2,339	1.59	1,879	1.93	460	0.92
IV. Mining & Quarrying	164	0.11	162	0.16	2	N
V. Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing & Repairs	5,292	3.59	4,280	4.39	1,012	2.03
V. (a) Household Industry	1,586	1.08	1,216	1.25	370	0.74
V. (b) Other than household industry	3,706	2.51	3,064	3.14	642	1.29
VI. Construction	12,700	8.62	10,212	10.47	2,488	4.98
VII. Trade & Commerce	5,461	3.70	4,963	5.09	498	1.00
VIII. Transport, storage and Communications	1,546	1.05	1,513	1.55	33	0.07
IX. Other Services	26,437	17.93	22,231	22.80	4,206	8.42
TOTAL	147,436	100.00	97,508	100.00	49,928	100.00

N=Negligible.

The distribution of the workers in the nine industrial categories as shown above indicates that workers engaged in cultivation account for 60.10 per cent. If we add the proportion of agricultural labourers in the proportion of cultivators, it can be seen that 63.41 per cent of the total main wokers are engaged in agricultural activities. Workers in other categories, taken together, account only for 36.59 per cent. Out of these 36.59 per cent workers, the workers in category IX (other services) are 17.93 per cent, followed by 8.62 per cent of the workers engaged in constructions and more than 3 per cent in categories VII (Trade and Commerce) and category V (Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs) respectively. Workers in rest of the categories have even lower proportions the lowest (0.11 per cent) being shared by those engaged in Mining and quarrying.

If these figures are examined separately for the males and females it would offer an interesting picture. Looking into the proportions for the sexes, one may notice that generally males predominate in all the categories of workers excepting cultivators. In the category of cultivators, women workers are considerably high constituting 79.52 per cent to the total female workers as against 50.16 per cent male cultivators. In this category it is the womenfolk who plays a major role in Sikkim. In agricultural labour both the sexes participate and their proportions do not however, show appreciable variation. In the field of Trade and Commerce, manufacturing, processing Servicing and repairs and constructions, again one can see the dominant role of the males, where more physical and mental labour is involved. In the last category of workers, miscellaneous kinds of economic pursuits like government service, private professions viz. doctors, teachers, musicians, etc. which are not covered in the preceding eight categories are included. This category occupies the second position in terms of percentage. This being a residuary category its proportion is relatively high, 17.93 per cent for the state. Among the males the workers of this category constitute 22.80 per cent of the total male working population of the state. Out of the the total working female population, the proportion of female engaged in other services is 8.42 per cent.

Table No. IX.3 gives the proportion of workers classified into nine industrial categories.

TABLE IX.3

Percentage of workers in different categories in the districts of Sikkim

State/Distt.	Percentage of workers in each category to total workers								
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
SIKKIM . .	60.10	3.31	1.59	0.11	3.59	8.62	3.70	1.05	17.93
North	41.56	12.83	7.62	—	2.80	15.12	3.38	0.83	15.86
East	42.63	2.50	1.04	0.27	6.08	11.89	5.71	1.77	28.11
South	72.18	1.64	1.64	N	2.19	6.18	2.73	0.82	12.62
West	81.85	3.14	0.46	—	1.27	3.74	1.60	0.21	7.73

N=Negligible.

Cultivators

For purposes of the census a person is working as cultivator if he or she is engaged either as employer, single worker or family worker in cultivation of land owned or held from government or held from private persons or institutions for payment in money, kind or share. Cultivation includes supervision or direction of cultivation.

This category of workers has the highest proportion of workers in the state 60.10 per cent. in the districts, this proportion is generally not maintained. Two districts, have a higher proportion and two districts have a lower proportion than the state figure of 60.10 per cent. West district records the highest percentage of cultivators (81.85%) followed by South (72.18%). North (41.56%) and East (42.63%) have figures much lower than the state average. The lowest percentage is recorded in North district as expected. The obvious reason is that the workers engaged in cardamom plantation are not considered as cultivators as per the census concept. They are classified as "Other workers". Similarly, in East district also proportion of cultivators is lowest in the state. The reason for this could be mainly attributed to he fact that large number of workers are engaged in various government departments and private organisations at Gangtok, the state capital of Sikkim.

Agricultural Labourers

For the state as a whole this category of workers accounts for 3.31 per cent of the total working population. In the districts however, the percentage varies from less than 2 per cent in South district to 12.83 per cent in North district. The district of East (2.50%) and West (3.14%) are vary near the state average. The lowest percentage of agricultural labourers is observed in South district (1.64%).

Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting, Plantations, Orchards and Allied Activities

The proportion of workers in this category to the total workers in the state is as low as 1.59 per cent. Only North district has a proportion of 7.62 per cent. All the other districts have a proportion below 2 per cent. North district heads the

list, because the apple orchards can be seen in most parts of North Sikkim. Rearing of cattle like yaks, sheep and goats is found in abundant in this district. The proportion of workers in the West district engaged in this category is recorded as low as 1 per cent.

Mining and Quarrying

This sector of economy accounts for the lowest proportion of workers in the state. Of the total workers in the State, an insignificant 0.11 per cent is engaged in mining and quarrying. Mining & quarrying being a very limited activity in Sikkim, the proportion of workers in this sector is negligible in South district and not a single worker is reported in North and West districts engaged in this category. Even in East district the proportion of such workers is hardly 0.27 per cent of the total working population.

Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs

The proportion of this category represents 3.59 per cent at the state level which clearly shows that industrial activity in the state is yet to pick up. The same position is revealed in all the districts except East district. The East district shows a higher proportion of workers engaged in manufacturing, processing and repairs due to establishment of many small industries and household industries in Gangtok, the State capital of Sikkim and its surrounding areas. The other districts namely, North, South and West with 2.80, 2.19 and 1.27 per cent workers respectively engaged in category V do not favourably compare with the State average.

Construction

The contribution of construction workers to the total working population in the state is 8.62 per cent. The workers in this category include those working in construction and maintenance of buildings, roads, bridges, irrigation projects, etc. Generally, the proportion of workers in this category is bound to vary from district to district from time to time because construction is not a permanent or lasting activity like cultivation or industrial production. Among the districts, North

District has the highest proportion of 15.12 per cent of construction workers. The lowest proportion of such workers is observed in West district 3.74 per cent. East district with a proportion of 11.89 per cent workers is second in order where construction activities appear to dominate the scene. The lowest proportion of workers under construction 3.74 per cent is observed in West district.

Trade and Commerce

Trade and commerce is one of the important sectors of our economy but only 3.70 per cent of our workers are in this category. East district is at the top of the list with 5.71 per cent workers. West district is at the bottom with barely 1.60 per cent workers engaged in trade and commerce. In North district which till recently was among the most backward districts of the state, trade and commerce developed fast as a result of the consumer needs of Mangan town.

Transport, Storage and Communications

At the state level, 1.05 per cent of the total working population belongs to this category. The range of percentages in the districts is from 0.21 per cent to 1.77 per cent.

East district tops the list with a proportion of 1.77 per cent of workers in this sector. The three remaining districts record the proportions less than 1 per cent.

Other Services

This is a miscellaneous category covering people doing different kinds of work not falling in any of the preceding categories. This category as already stated, includes all government officials, officials of the local bodies, advocates, teachers, social workers, etc. With 17.93 per cent workers in the state, this category occupies the second position. In this category, the pride of place goes to East district which has a proportion of 28.11 per cent. The reason for this could be mainly attributed to the fact that large number of workers are engaged in various Government departments and private organisations at

Gangtok, the state capital of Sikkim, North District which is a tribal area has also a higher percentage of workers in this category (15.86%). In other two districts, viz., South and West the proportion falls below the state average, West coming last with 7.73 per cent. As expected the proportion of this category is significantly high in North district after East. The reason is that the workers engaged in cardamom plantations are not considered as cultivators as per the concept of cultivator in census. The workers engaged in cardamom plantations are treated as 'other workers' and are therefore, included in other services.

Distribution of workers in Rural and Urban areas.

We have so far discussed the different categories of workers for the total population of the state and districts. It will be worthwhile to discuss the proportion of different categories of workers in the rural and urban population separately. As expected, in the rural areas, the largest proportion of workers is made up of cultivators. The agricultural labourers also have much higher proportion in rural than in urban areas. Workers in livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantations, orchards and allied activities account for 1.68 per cent of the rural workers. The remaining categories of workers also represent only small proportions ranging from less than one percent to 12.56 per cent of the rural workers. The above shown 12.56 per cent of the rural workers are engaged in other services. The distribution of workers in the urban population is naturally more varied. As non-agricultural activity is the basic characteristic of the urban areas, the first four categories cultivators, agricultural labourers, Workers in livestock, forestry, etc. and mining and quarrying account for only a small percentage of the total urban workers. The categories other services and Trade and Commerce account for the largest proportion of 50.03 per cent and 16.41 per cent respectively of the urban workers. Construction also occupies an important position in urban areas with 13.54 per cent workers engaged in this activity. Manufacturing, Processing, servicing and repairs represent 12.82 per cent of the urban workers. Not a single worker of the category of mining and quarrying is found in urban areas.

TABLE IX.4

Distribution of workers in rural and urban areas

	Category	Percentage of workers in		
		State	Rural	Urban
1		2	3	4
I	Cultivators	60.10	69.96	1.16
II	Agricultural Labourers	3.31	3.77	0.57
III	Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting and Plantation, Orchards and Allied activities	1.59	1.68	0.99
IV	Mining and Quarrying	0.11	0.13	—
V	Manufacturing, Processing Servicing Repairs	3.59	2.05	12.82
VI	Construction	8.62	7.79	13.54
VII	Trade & Commerce	3.70	1.58	16.41
VIII	Transport, Storage & Communications	1.05	0.48	4.48
IX	Other Services	17.93	12.56	50.03

Non-Workers

Those who are economically not active, constitute 51.70 per cent of the population in this state. In terms of absolute numbers, 163,571 out of a population of 316,385 are non workers. The sex-wise distribution of non-workers is, males 73,768 males and 89,803 females. The male non-workers form 42.78 per cent of male population and female non-workers constitute 62.39 per cent of the female population. The non-workers by type of activity are presented in table number IX.5.

TABLE IX.5

Non-workers by type of activity in Sikkim

Type of Non-workers	Number	% to total Non-workers
1	2	3
Household duties	27,698	16.93
Students	53,663	32.81
Dependents	80,765	49.37
Retired Persons or rentiers	456	0.28
Beggars, etc.	63	0.04
Inmates of institutions	92	0.06
Other Non-workers	833	0.51

Dependents and infants constitute the largest proportion (49.37 per cent) of the total non-workers, followed by students (32.81 per cent). Persons engaged in household duties constitute 16.93 per cent of the total non-workers. As is natural, those engaged in household duties are much more prominent among females than among males. Out of the total non-workers of this group, as much as 95.57 per cent are women. Female dependents have also a slightly higher proportion than their male counterparts. In rest of the groups, males predominate over females.

Pattern of Main Activity of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Sikkim :—

Let us now turn our attention to see how the scheduled caste and scheduled tribe population is engaged in economic activities. Table No. IX. 6 gives the proportion of main workers, marginal workers and non-workers among Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and General population in Sikkim.

TABLE IX .6

Nature of population	Total population	Main workers (per cent)	Marginal workers (per cent)	Non-workers (per cent)
Scheduled Castes .	18,281	42.40	1.55	56.05
Scheduled Tribes . .	73,623	44.51	1.56	52.93
General Population . .	316,385	46.60	1.70	51.70

The significant features of working population of Sikkim show that out of total population of 316,385, 147,436 (46.60 per cent) are main workers. Of the main workers 97,508 are males and 49,928 are females constituting 56.55 per cent of male and 34.69 per cent of female population respectively. Among scheduled castes, out of total population of 18,281, only 7,751 (42.40 per cent) are main workers, 56.05 per cent are non-workers and 1.55 per cent are marginal workers.

The percentage of main-workers is comparatively less among scheduled castes as compared to the over all percentage of main workers. Out of total 7,751 scheduled castes main workers, 5,112 are males and 2,639 are females, consisting of 53.48 per cent of the male and 30.25 percent of the female population respectively.

Out of the total tribal population of 73,623 in Sikkim 32,773 (44.51 per cent) are main workers, 52.93 per cent are non-workers and 2.56 per cent are marginal workers. Of the total main-workers, 19,975 are males and 12,798 are females consisting of 52.28 per cent of male and 36.14 per cent of female population respectively.

CHAPTER X

FERTILITY LEVELS AND TRENDS

In every Society, it is very necessary to find out birth and death rates. In fact the birth of a child or death of a member in a family influences the whole family structure as well as the society as a whole. It also affects the health of parents, their psychology and attitude towards family life. The factors determining human fertility are wide and may vary from basic biological factor of race to social constraints.

The basic determinants of fertility include fecundity, age at time of marriage, marriage systems, sexual habits etc. Besides these, there is a long list of other factors which make their own contribution in influencing the fertility pattern of a population such as degree of urbanisation, duration of marriage, working and non working status of females, religious background, educational level, desire to have a son, public policies, standard of living and diet etc. In fact the human fertility is controlled by a large number of personal/psychological factors working in specific situations and it may not be possible to prepare an exhaustive inventry of all these factors.

The need of fertility has been felt from the beginning of social life. There are evidences to show that in the past, with the help of prayers, in many societies, an effort was made to have fertility of barren women. As the time passed, it was realised that scientific means of changing barrenness into fertility are more reliable. Fecundity is biological potential—the psychological capacity to participate in reproduction. It is an established fact that fecundity of women in Europe is lesser as compared to their counterparts in South Asia.

In 1981 Census, four questions on fertility were canvassed. These related to age at marriage, number of surviving children and number of children born and whether any child was born during the last one year. The first three questions were canvassed for all ever married women, while the last one was canvassed only in the case of currently married women.

Data on fertility were generated on computer on 100 per cent basis for Sikkim like other smaller states and the Union territories. The broad fertility indicators, which will be discussed here, are age specific fertility rate (ASFR), Age Specific marital fertility rate (GMFR), total marital fertility rate (TMFR), General Fertility Rate (GFR) and Total Fertility Rate (TFR). These are all based on the question of "births during the last one year" to the currently married women.

Age specific fertility rate—The average number of children born alive during the last year per woman of a particular age group.

Age specific marital fertility rate—The average number of children born alive during the last one year per married woman of a particular age group.

General fertility rate—The number of children born alive during the last year per 1,000 women of child bearing ages. In 1981 census tabulation, the age group 15—49 has been considered as child bearing group.

General Marital Fertility Rate—The number of children born alive during the last year per 1,000 married women of child bearing ages.

Total Fertility Rate—The number of children that would have been born alive per woman, had the current schedule of age specific fertility rates been applicable for the entire reproductive period. It is calculated as the sum of the age specific fertility rates in the five year age groups multiplied by five.

Total marital fertility rate—Total number of children that would have been born alive per married women, had the current schedule of age specific marital fertility rates been applicable for the entire reproductive period. It is calculated as the sum of age specific marital fertility rates in five year age groups multiplied by five.

A few limitations with regard to fertility indices must be noted. In the Census, the question on birth during the last one year was canvassed only for currently married women for operational reasons. It was felt that in a massive operation like the census, sensitive questions as to whether there was any birth during the last one year should not be canvassed

in the case of the single, widowed or divorced women. There may have been some births during the last one year before the day of enumeration to women who might have become widowed or might have been divorced subsequently but before or during the census enumeration period. Such births would not have been netted. Another class of births that would have been left out would relate to babies born during the last one year to mothers who may have died before the Census date. In calculating the indices such as ASFR, TFR GMFR and GFR, the mid year population should usually be used as the denominator. However, in absence of any data on deaths among the females during the last year, the number of females classified by age groups as reported in the census has been used as the denominator without any adjustment. The effect of these three limitations would be partly to under-estimate the relevant fertility indicators. The limitations of an enquiry of this nature in which retrospective data is attempted to be collected must also be kept in mind, particularly the likelihood of omission of events, inaccuracies in dating of births and distortions in age reporting. These limitations would imply that the estimates of current fertility presented herein should be considered as indicative of broad trends rather than of actual levels.

Table X.1 presents the age specific fertility rate and the age specific marital fertility rate by religion for all areas and for rural and urban areas separately.

TABLE X.1

Religion	Age group	Age, specific fertility Rate			Age specific Marital fertility Rate		
		Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
All Religions	15—19	0.042	0.040	0.052	0.176	0.170	0.023
	20—24	0.189	0.192	0.172	0.268	0.275	0.327
	25—29	0.211	0.220	0.172	0.243	0.254	0.195
	30—34	0.184	0.195	0.126	0.203	0.215	0.138
	35—39	0.151	0.163	0.082	0.166	0.179	0.089
	40—44	0.085	0.091	0.040	0.098	0.105	0.047
	45—49	0.035	0.037	0.020	0.042	0.044	0.023
	GMFR	—	—	—	168	172	148
	TMFR	—	—	—	5.98	6.21	4.66
	GFR	137	142	116	—	—	—
	TFR	4.48	4.69	3.32	—	—	—
Hindus	15—19	0.041	0.040	0.047	0.174	0.169	0.195
	20—24	0.181	0.187	0.155	0.268	0.278	0.226
	25—29	0.210	0.222	0.158	0.242	0.255	0.183
	30—34	0.181	0.193	0.111	0.200	0.213	0.122
	35—39	0.148	0.160	0.078	0.164	0.177	0.085
	40—44	0.077	0.082	0.036	0.089	0.095	0.044
	45—49	0.032	0.034	0.015	0.038	0.040	0.019
	GMFR	—	—	—	170	174	146
	TMFR	—	—	—	5.87	6.14	4.37
	GFR	132	137	104	—	—	—
	TFR	4.35	4.59	3.00	—	—	—

TABLE X.1—*contd.*

	Age group	Age specific fertility Rate			Age specific Marital fertility Rate		
		Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
Christians	15—19	0.021	0.022	—	0.109	0.140	0.000
	20—24	0.195	0.200	0.185	0.257	0.261	0.246
	25—29	0.178	0.209	0.112	0.209	0.247	0.130
	30—34	0.163	0.182	0.104	0.193	0.218	0.119
	35—39	0.155	0.185	0.088	0.183	0.223	0.100
	40—44	0.099	0.117	0.036	0.127	0.148	0.048
	35—49	0.011	0.016	—	0.016	0.023	0.000
	GMFR	—	—	—	167	185	121
	TMFR	—	—	—	5.47	6.30	3.22
	GFR	130	137	108	—	—	—
	TFR	4.11	4.65	2.62	—	—	—
Buddhists	15—19	0.044	0.040	0.070	0.185	0.174	0.257
	20—24	0.206	0.204	0.211	0.270	0.270	0.271
	25—29	0.217	0.219	0.202	0.249	0.254	0.229
	30—34	0.194	0.200	0.158	0.213	0.220	0.174
	35—39	0.158	0.171	0.081	0.169	0.183	0.088
	40—44	0.100	0.108	0.050	0.119	0.121	0.057
	45—49	0.043	0.045	0.028	0.049	0.057	0.034
	GMFR	—	—	—	165	167	156
	TMFR	—	—	—	46.27	6.39	5.55
	GFR	148	150	139	—	—	—
	TFR	4.81	4.93	4.00	—	—	—

A close look of table X.1 reveals that the fertility is comparatively higher among Buddhists, followed by Hindus. Also, generally ASFR and ASFMR are higher in the rural areas than in the urban areas. The total fertility rate (TFR) in Sikkim is 4.69 in rural areas, 3.32 in urban areas and 4.48 in all areas. The total fertility rate (TFR) in India (excluding Assam) is 3.9 in rural areas, 2.8 in urban areas and 3.6 for total areas. It reflects that TFR is relatively higher in Sikkim than all India average. It may be stated here that fertility in India is higher among Muslims, followed by Buddhists, Hindus, Sikhs, Jains and Christians.

The average number of children ever born alive per woman is presented in table number X.2.

TABLE X.2

Average number of children born alive per woman by religion—Sikkim, 1981

Religion	Total Rural Urban	Age-group							
		15—19	20—24	25—29	30—34	35—39	40—44	45—49	50 +
All Religions . . .	Total								
	Rural	0.417	1.350	2.614	3.791	5.053	5.747	6.096	5.791
	Urban	0.539	1.267	2.298	3.372	4.334	5.059	5.243	5.002
Hindus	Total								
	Rural	0.418	1.634	2.653	3.925	5.076	5.809	6.128	5.996
	Urban	0.534	1.307	2.325	3.512	4.376	5.018	5.349	6.154
Christians . . .	Total								
	Rural	0.444	1.304	2.693	4.071	4.835	6.123	5.571	5.648
	Urban	0.417	1.113	2.075	3.114	3.843	5.083	5.190	5.468
Buddhists . . .	Total								
	Rural	0.409	1.262	2.517	3.966	5.035	5.584	6.036	5.404
	Urban	0.523	1.175	2.218	3.085	4.327	5.193	5.005	4.624

Table No. X.2 indicates high fertility levels that were prevalent till recently in Sikkim. It will be noticed that the average number of children ever born per woman is higher in the older age groups. However, it may be noticed that there is a declining trend in fertility. A close look of the table reveals that the number of children ever born increases till the age group 45—49 and falls slightly in the age group 50 and above. This behaviour is of course, not witnessed among Christians and Urban Hindus. But it is observed quite prominently among Buddhists and rural Hindus. Even if we compare the results with all India figures in general, the average number of children ever born per woman increases with age in both the rural and urban areas and for each of the religions.

Table No. X.3 gives the average number of children born per ever married woman. The table shows that average number of children born per ever married woman is lower in urban areas as compared to rural areas.

TABLE X.3

Average number of children born per ever married woman

Age Group	Rural	Urban
	1981	1981
1	2	3
15—19	0.42	0.54
20—24	1.35	1.27
25—29	2.61	2.30
30—34	3.94	3.37
35—39	5.05	4.33
40—44	5.75	5.06
45—49	6.10	5.24

Sex Ratio of Children ever Born

The sex ratio of children ever born is presented in table No. X.4. The variation in sex ratio is evident among various religions, rural and urban areas. There is no clear cut pattern

STATEMENT X.4

Sex ratio (Females per 1000 males) of children born

Present age of mother	All Religions			Hindus			Christians			Buddhists		
	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
All ages . .	930	931	919	936	938	922	951	940	989	917	919	906
Less than 15 .	2,500	4,000	1,000	4,000	3,000	..	..	..	..	1,000	..	..
15—19 . .	972	946	1,072	968	949	1,038	786	818	667	1,050	957	1,667
20—24 . .	965	961	980	979	976	997	953	892	1,135	917	924	882
25—29 . .	929	929	928	931	932	923	981	1,069	771	921	914	957
30—34 . .	962	966	938	968	972	945	952	901	1,175	947	953	908
35—39 . .	932	934	919	934	936	922	918	905	960	933	937	905
40—44 . .	937	940	916	950	951	934	991	1,004	937	916	919	900
45—49 . .	917	917	913	921	920	931	1,074	1,000	1,319	908	909	894
50 and above .	909	913	874	915	920	849	901	883	977	902	903	898
15—49 . .	939	940	932	945	946	941	971	964	993	925	927	915

STATEMENT X.5

Sex Ratio (Females per 1000 males) of children surviving.

Presentage of mother	All religions			Hindus			Christians			Budhists		
	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
All ages . .	935	935	936	940	940	939	968	972	954	922	922	925
Less than 15 . .	2000	3000	1000	3000	2000	..	..	..	..	1000	..	..
15—19 . .	990	962	1103	982	959	1071	833	1000	333	1077	967	1750
20—24 . .	989	983	1017	1009	1003	1040	920	903	686	931	933	921
25—29 . .	946	948	941	950	953	939	991	1096	752	933	927	963
30—34 . .	993	999	959	994	999	966	962	913	1153	987	996	929
35—39 . .	949	954	919	949	953	922	939	915	1000	955	964	901
40—44 . .	943	946	922	951	950	951	1000	1051	804	929	934	892
45—49 . .	921	916	958	928	924	965	1036	953	1300	902	900	919
50 and above .	880	881	877	882	886	843	951	948	960	874	869	918
15—49 . .	955	956	950	961	961	961	974	981	953	942	945	927

in sex ratio of children ever born by the present age of the mother. However, it can be seen that sex ratio among the older age groups has declined. Part of this trend could be caused by failure to report female children during enumeration specially among mothers in the older age groups. The omission of female children is probably much greater in the age group 50 and above. The highest sex ratio of children ever born is seen among Christians (951) and the lowest among Buddhists (917). For India as a whole (excluding Assam) the sex ratio of children ever born is 896 females per 1000 males and this ratio is 930 for Sikkim. The sex ratio of surviving children is presented in Table No. X.5.

The decrease in sex ratio at the older age groups is noticeable from this table also. A comparison of table No. X.4 and X.5 however, reveals that sex ratio of children surviving has increased among all the Religions. Probably, this is because of higher incidence of mortality of male children compared to females in Sikkim. For India as a whole (excluding Assam) the sex ratio of children surviving is 874 in rural areas and 875 in urban areas whereas, in Sikkim, it is 935 in rural and 936 in urban areas.

Proportion of ever married women with three or more children

Table number X.6 presents the proportion of ever married females with three children or more by age groups.

TABLE X.6.

Proportion of ever married Females with three children or more by age-group and religion (per cent)

Age group	Total Rural Urban	All religions	Hindus	Christians	Buddhists
1	2	3	4	5	6
All ages	Total	58.89	58.14	57.71	60.18
	Rural	60.48	60.08	61.08	61.55
	Urban	49.79	46.47	48.76	52.36
15—19 . .	Total	3.53	3.67	7.02	2.85
	Rural	3.55	3.65	8.89	2.86
	Urban	3.45	3.78	—	2.80

TABLE IX.6—*contd.*

1	2	3	4	5	6
20—24	Total	16.15	16.70	16.38	14.88
	Rural	16.85	17.37	18.01	15.45
	Urban	13.02	13.66	12.68	12.11
25—29	Total	49.30	50.73	46.92	45.83
	Rural	50.68	51.96	53.27	47.55
	Urban	43.13	45.07	33.33	37.71
30—34	Total	72.88	73.55	69.01	73.28
	Rural	79.95	74.65	72.44	75.22
	Urban	66.93	67.00	59.09	62.77
35—39	Total	82.16	81.78	78.13	82.02
	Rural	82.79	82.81	83.49	82.99
	Urban	78.57	75.68	66.67	76.31
40—44	Total	83.94	83.65	85.84	83.28
	Rural	84.30	84.57	86.52	83.47
	Urban	82.29	76.54	83.33	81.97
45—49	Total	84.51	84.44	87.01	80.59
	Rural	84.94	85.66	85.71	80.62
	Urban	81.26	73.68	90.48	80.39
50 and above	Total	79.83	81.97	80.09	75.86
	Rural	80.38	82.24	79.89	76.73
	Urban	75.04	78.63	80.85	69.88

Nearly 59 per cent of ever married women have three or more children. In other words, three out of five ever married women have three or more children. As would be expected, the proportion increases with age. The proportion of ever married females with three or more children is significantly lower in urban areas as compared to rural areas. This pattern is evidently clear in all the age-groups. In the case of Buddhists proportion of females with three children or more is lower in the age-groups 15—19, 20—24 and 25—29 as compared to Hindus and Christians. But in the older age groups of 30—34 and 35—39, the proportion of Buddhist Females

with three children or more is higher than Hindus and christians. When we compare the proportion of ever married women with three children or more in rural areas with that of urban areas, it can be seen that the proportion is significantly higher in rural areas.

Table X.7 presents the proportion of ever married females in each age group to total ever married females in rural areas.

TABLE X.7

Percentage distribution of ever married women in rural areas by age and religion

Age Group	All religion	Hindus	Christians	Budhists
1	2	3	4	5
All ages	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
less than 15 . . .	0.20	0.21	0.10	0.18
15—19	5.61	6.24	4.66	4.18
20—24	17.01	17.96	16.67	14.74
25—29	16.16	16.11	20.60	15.91
30—34	12.75	12.73	13.15	12.80
35—39	10.62	0.61	11.28	10.62
40—44	9.39	9.20	9.21	9.82
45—49	7.48	7.29	5.80	8.09
50 and above . . .	20.76	19.65	18.53	23.63

An analysis of Table X.7 reveals that a substantial percentage of ever married females is below 25 among Hindus (above 24%) which is followed by Christians (above 21%) and Buddhists (19%). In the age below 25, the proportion having three children or more is distinctly lower in the case of Buddhists and Hindus compared to Christians in the case of rural areas.

Childless Women

The proportion of Childless women who have had no live births can be calculated from the number of women who have completed their reproductive period that is those ever married women who are 50 years and above and with no live births. Table No. X.8 indicates the proportion of such women.

TABLE X.8

Percentage of ever married women (aged 50 and above) with no live births, by religion

Religions	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4
All religions	6.33	6.28	6.80
Hindus	5.70	5.68	5.99
Christians	2.65	2.79	2.13
Buddhists	7.64	7.56	8.21

The proportion of such women is lowest among Christians (2.67%) and highest among Buddhists (7.64%). No significant difference is observed in the rural and urban areas.

CHAPTER XI

MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE

What is meant by migration ?

Migration is an important aspect in the field of population study. A community or a country can gain population either by birth or by in-migration and it can lose population by deaths among its residents or by out-migration. In other words, migration is a major factor in changing the size and structure of the population. The migration process affects the areas to which migrants have moved and areas which they have left. The term migration connotes the change of residence from one geographical unit to another. The political and social upheavals; natural calamities like floods, famines, earthquakes, epidemics and opening of new areas for industries and colonisation greatly stimulate the process of migration. The factors like employment, education, marriage etc. also contribute to the process of migration.

Statistics of migration in the Indian Census are traditionally collected. In 1971 census migration data were collected for the first time on the basis of place of last residence in addition to the question of birth place. The questions were— I. Birth place (a) place of birth, (b) rural/urban, (c) district, (d) state/country; II. last residence : (i) (a) place of last residence. (b) rural/urban, (c) district (d) state/country, (ii) duration of residence at the village or town of enumeration.

In 1981 census, the scope of enquiry on migration has been further widened by collecting information on 'reason for migration from place of last residence' in addition to the enquiry made in 1971 census.

Some of the terms used in this volume are defined below :

1. Migrant—If a person who has moved from one politically defined area to another similar area. In India such areas are generally a village in rural areas and a town in urban areas.

2. Birth Place Migrant—If at the time of census enumeration there is a change in the usual place of residence of an individual with reference to his/her birth place, he/she is defined as a migrant in accordance with birth place concept.

3. Last Residence Migrant—If at the time of census enumeration a change in the usual place of residence of individual is noted with reference to his/her previous usual residence, he/she is termed as a migrant in accordance with last residence concept.

4. In Migrant—A person who crosses the boundaries of a village/town for the purpose of residing at the place of enumeration is an in-migrant.

5. Out-Migrant—If a person moves out from the place of enumeration (village/town) for usual residence, he or she is termed as out-migrant.

Internal and International Migration

Migration, like fertility and mortality, holds a prominent place in the study of population of any area. The movement of population is an instrument of cultural exchange and social integration. Migration within the country is known as internal migrants. The terms migration and immigration are also used to depict out-migration and in-migration across the international border respectively. The internal migration can be classified into four types on the basis of area (I) rural to urban (II) urban to urban, (III) rural to rural, and (IV) urban to rural areas. Migration can be measured with reference to place of birth and place of last residence.

Table No. XI.1 shows the population of Sikkim classified by place of birth. This table throws light on the internal and external migration in the state of Sikkim.

TABLE XI.1

Population classified by place of birth

Birth Place	Rural or Urban status of Birth Place	Place of enumeration					
		Total		Rural		Urban	
		M	F	M	F	M	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Total Population		172,440	143,945	142,341	122,960	30,099	20,985
A. Born in India	Total	157,017	134,346	129,780	114,935	27,237	19,411
	Rural	134,573	115,878	124,629	110,656	9,944	5,222
	Urban	22,330	18,371	5,088	4,203	17,243	14,168
I Within the state of enumeration	Total	136,237	121,304	119,694	107,600	16,542	13,703
	Rural	121,626	108,458	117,687	105,612	3,939	2,845
	Urban	14,585	12,819	1,983	1,961	12,602	10,858
	Total	112,064	87,569	100,467	77,509	11,597	10,061
	Rural	100,467	77,509	100,467	77,509	—	—
	Urban	11,596	10,061	—	—	11,597	10,061
2 Born elsewhere in district of enumeration	Total	15,855	24,857	13,283	22,844	2,571	2,013
	Rural	14,528	23,557	12,277	21,838	2,251	1,719
	Urban	1,316	1,283	996	988	320	295

3	Born in other districts of the State . .	Total	8,318	8,878	5,944	7,248	2,374	1,630
		Rural	6,631	7,392	4,943	6,265	1,688	1,127
		Urban	1,672	1,476	987	973	685	503
II.	State in India beyond the state of enumeration	Total	20,780	13,042	10,085	7,334	10,695	5,707
		Rural	12,947	7,420	6,941	5,044	6,005	2,377
		Urban	7,745	5,551	3,105	2,242	4,640	3,310
	Born in countries in Asia beyond India (Incl. USSR)		15,410	9,583	12,559	8,022	2,851	1,561
C.	Countries in Europe (Exc. USSR) . .		2	4	—	—	2	4
D.	Countries in Africa		1	—	1	—	—	—
E.	Countries in the Americas		9	7	—	—	9	7
F.	Countries in Oceania		—	—	—	—	—	—
G.	Unclassifiable		1	5	1	3	—	2

NOTE : In item 'A' and its sub-parts, place of birth unclassifiable as rural and urban is included in total.

This table gives the distribution of population by birth place. For those born outside the village or town of enumeration, the status of the birth place was reported by the enumerator as rural or urban depending on its status at the time of enumeration.

Out of the total population of 316,385, 199,633 persons were those who were born in their place of enumeraiton. 40,712 persons were born elsewhere in the district of enumeration. 17,196 persons were born in other districts of the state and 33,822 were born in a state in India but beyond the state of enumeration. In all there are 92.09 per cent of persons in Sikkim who were born in India. The remaining 7.91 per cent were born outside the country of India. Among these migrants, 99.88 per cent were born in Asia beyond India including U.S.S.R. Out of these 24,993 persons returned as having their place of birth in Asia beyond India including U.S.S.R., 21,627 persons are those born in the neighbouring country of Nepal. The nearness of the state to Nepal and the social and cultural contacts with it appear to be the reasons for the presence of such a large number of persons from that country in the state of Sikkim. As per the 1981 census, 2,346 persons had stated their place of birth as China. The reason for such return appears to be the fact that such migrants were the Tibetans who came to Sikkim in groups of families during or after the Chinese occupation.

Among the persons born in a state of India beyond the state of their enumeration, 53.66 per cent of migrants to Sikkim were reported to be born in West Bengal. With the merger of Sikkim to Indian Union on 26th April, 1975, a large number of people migrated to Sikkim from the Darjeeling district of West Bengal in search of employment which resulted a large number of migrants from West Bengal. Similarly, many persons from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh reported immigration to Sikkim. They are mostly engaged in Business Sector. It is interesting to see that there is no state in India whose people are not residing in Sikkim. The number of migrants may vary from state to state. It can be seen from table No. XI.1 that very few persons have reported their birth place as Europe, Africa, America and there is none from Oceania.

Migrants by place of birth

Table No. XI.2 gives the percentage distribution of migrants in Sikkim by place of birth. On the basis of migrants

by place of birth, there are 116,752 migrants in Sikkim in 1981, comprising 60,376 males and 56,376 females. These migrants constitute 36.9 per cent of the total population. Male migrants constitute 35.0 per cent of male population while female migrants account for 39.2 per cent of female population. A close look at table XI.1 reveals that females predominate in intra and inter district migration while males predominate in interstate and international migration. The heavy predominance of females so far as Intra-district migration is concerned can be judged by the absolute value. While there are 15,855 male migrants as per 1981 Census who have migrated within the district, the corresponding number for females is 24,857 which is more than 1.5 times the male migrants. Even in the inter-district movement the female migrants (8,878) out number the male migrants (8,318).

The number of migrants born in other states of India are 33,822 (20,780 males and 13,042 females).

TABLE XI.2

Percentage distribution of Migrants by Place of birth 1981

Place of birth	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
A. Migrants born within the State of enumeration to total migrants	49.59 (57,908)	40.03 (24,173)	59.84 (33,735)
(i) Migrants born elsewhere in the district of enumeration to total migrants.	34.87 (40,712)	26.26 (15,855)	44.09 (24,857)
(ii) Migrants born in other districts of State to total migrants	14.72 (17,196)	13.77 (8,318)	15.75 (8,878)
B. Migrants born in other states of India to total migrants .	28.97 (33,822)	34.42 (20,780)	23.13 (13,042)
C. Migrants born in other countries to total migrants .	21.40 (24,993)	25.52 (15,410)	16.99 (99,583)

NOTE—The figures in brackets gives the absolute values of migrant.

Migrants by place of last residence

The table XI.3 gives the distribution of migrants, i.e. those who last resided in a place outside the place of enumeration. This is a basic table on migration showing inter-district, intra-district, intra state and inter-state migratory streams and migration from abroad during the last 20 years and beyond.

Since this migration table is based on last place of residence, it takes into account only the last migratory movement of a person even though he might have migrated several times in his life time.

TABLE XI.3

Migrants classified by place of last residence and duration of residence in place of enumeration

Last residence			Total migrants		Duration of residence in place of enumeration			
Total/Rural/ Urban	Total Rural Urban		M	F	Less than 1 year		1—4 years	
					M	F	M	F
1	2		3	4	5	6	7	8
TOTAL	Total		60,468	56,455	10,127	5,521	20,190	15,163
	Rural		41,953	45,523	8,022	4,318	13,029	11,204
	Urban		18,515	10,932	2,105	1,203	7,161	3,259
A. Last residence elsewhere in India	Total	Total	49,153	49,202	8,492	4,961	16,962	13,428
	Rural		34,854	39,61	5,798	3,562	11,177	9,860
	Urban		14,193	9,489	2,675	1,388	5,757	3,546
	Total	Rural	33,070	39,618	6,636	3,865	13,523	9,810
	Rural		25,914	34,624	4,843	3,032	7,844	8,103
	Urban		7,101	4,917	1,779	825	2,669	1,698
	Total	Urban	16,088	9,854	1,855	1,096	6,439	3,618
	Rural		8,941	4,988	954	530	3,333	1,737
	Urban		7,092	4,572	896	563	3,088	1,848

I. Within the state of enumeration but outside the place of enumeration	Total	Total	30,498	37,197	5,139	3,381	9,603	9,289
	Rural		24,219	32,975	3,754	2,732	7,242	7,801
	Urban		6,257	4,190	1,384	643	2,358	1,483
	Total	Rural	24,576	33,053	4,431	2,902	7,364	7,778
	Rural		20,334	30,115	3,340	2,431	5,824	6,801
	Urban		4,222	2,908	1,090	466	1,538	973
	Total	Urban	5,922	4,144	707	478	2,239	1,511
	Rural		3,885	2,860	414	301	1,418	1,000
	Urban		2,035	1,282	294	177	819	510
1. Elsewhere in district of enumeration	Total	Total	20,805	27,918	3,203	2,311	6,257	6,649
	Rural		17,605	25,692	2,536	1,985	5,126	5,886
	Urban		3,188	2,204	667	323	1,131	762
	Total	Rural	17,632	25,545	2,813	2,022	5,087	5,828
	Rural		15,326	23,915	2,283	1,781	4,303	5,287
	Urban		2,294	1,609	531	239	782	540
	Total	Urban	3,173	2,373	390	289	1,170	821
	Rural		2,280	1,777	253	204	821	599
	Urban		894	595	137	84	349	222
2. In other districts of state of enumeration	Total	Total	9,692	9,279	1,936	1,070	3,346	2,640
	Rural		6,614	7,283	1,218	747	2,116	1,915
	Urban		3,069	1,985	717	320	1,226	721
	Total	Rural	6,944	7,508	1,619	880	2,277	1,950
	Rural		5 008	6,200	1,058	650	1,519	1,514
	Urban		1,928	1,299	560	228	757	433

TABLE XI.3—*contd.*

1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Total	Urban	2,748	1,771	317	189	1,058	690
	Rural		1,606	1,083	160	97	598	401
	Urban		1,142	686	157	93	470	288
II. States in India beyond the	Total	Total	18,655	12,005	3,353	1,580	7,359	4,138
	Rural		10,635	6,637	2,044	830	3,934	2,059
	Urban		7,936	5,299	2,191	744	3,399	2,063
state of enumeration	Total	Rural	8,494	6,565	2,205	963	3,158	2,032
	Rural		5,580	4,508	1,503	601	2,020	1,301
	Urban		2,879	2,009	689	359	1,131	724
	Total	Urban	10,161	5,440	1,148	618	4,200	2,106
	Rural		5,055	2,128	540	229	1,915	757
	Urban		5,057	3,290	603	386	2,269	1,338
B. Countries in Asia beyond India (Including USSR)		Total	11,304	7,239	1,627	554	3,227	1,735
		Rural	8,882	5,902	1,386	453	2,506	1,394
		Urban	2,422	1,338	241	101	721	342
C. Countries in Europe (excluding USSR)		Total	1	2	—	—	1	—
		Rural	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Urban	1	2	—	—	1	—

D. Countries in Africa	Total	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Rural	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Urban	—	—	—	—	—	—
E. Countries in America	Total	10	7	9	7	—	—
	Rural	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Urban	10	7	9	7	—	—
F. Countries in Oceania	Total	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Rural	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Urban	—	—	—	—	—	—
G. Unclassifiable	Total	1	5	—	—	—	—
	Rural	1	3	—	—	—	—
	Urban	—	2	—	—	—	—

NOTE : In item 'A' and its sub-parts, place of last residence unclassifiable as rural or urban is included in TOTAL.

TABLE XI.3—*contd.*

Migrants classified by place of last residence and duration of residence in place of enumeration

Last residence/ Total/Rural/ Urban	Toral Rural Urban		Duration of residence in place of enumeration							
			5—9 years		10—19 years		20+ years		Period not stated	
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1	2		9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
TOTAL .	Total		10,053	9,784	10,230	11,550	8,509	12,344	1,359	2,094
	Rural		6,415	7,603	7,195	9,631	6,054	10,835	1,238	1,932
	Urban		3,538	2,181	3,034	1,913	2455	1,508	122	162
A. Last residence elsewhere in India :	Total	Total	8,508	8,795	7,996	9,937	5,986	10,224	1,209	1,858
	Rural		5,955	6,932	6,045	8,451	4,877	9,250	1,003	1,557
	Urban		2,536	1,853	1,941	1,480	1,096	963	188	259
	Total	Rural	5,254	6,813	5,386	8,264	4,171	9,162	1,101	1,703
	Rural		4,120	5,891	4,456	7,505	3,725	8,630	925	1,464
	Urban		1,129	917	924	757	443	523	158	198
	Total	Urban	3,254	1,981	2,160	1,678	1,816	1,062	108	154
	Rural		1,835	1,042	1,589	946	1,152	620	78	93
	Urban		1,407	937	1,017	724	654	439	30	61

I. Within the state of enumeration	Total	Total	5,125	6,419	5,414	7,792	4,242	8,668	975	1,468
	Rural		4,067	5,632	4,526	7,269	3,766	8,207	862	1,335
	Urban		1,056	785	884	702	474	453	103	124
but outside the place of enumeration	Toal	Rural	3,952	5,603	4,378	7,207	3,533	8,175	916	1,387
	Rural		3,308	5,067	3,791	6,705	3,260	3,839	811	1,273
	Urban		643	534	584	500	272	339	96	105
	Total	Urban	1,173	816	1,036	765	709	493	59	81
	Rural		759	565	736	563	507	368	52	62
	Urban		413	250	300	201	202	124	7	19
1. Elsewhere in district of enumeration	Total	Total	3,496	4,750	3,836	5,091	3,216	6,958	797	1,159
	Rural		2,983	4,333	3,305	5,688	2,918	6,704	737	1,096
	Urban		514	416	529	402	298	249	49	53
	Total	Rural	2,880	4,287	3,326	5,650	2,771	6,647	755	1,110
	Rural		2,513	3,977	2,933	5,354	2,592	6,463	699	1,053
	Urban		366	309	391	295	179	180	45	47
	Total	Urban	617	463	510	441	445	310	42	49
	Rural		469	356	372	334	326	241	38	42
	Urban		147	107	137	107	119	69	4	6
2. In other districts of state of enumeration	Total	Total	1,628	1,669	1,578	1,881	1,026	1,701	178	309
	Urban		1,085	1,299	1,221	1,580	849	1,503	125	239
	Urban		542	369	355	300	176	204	53	71
	Total	Rural	1,072	1,317	1,052	1,557	762	1,527	162	277
	Rural		795	1,090	858	1,351	668	1,376	111	220
	Urban		276	226	192	205	93	149	50	57

TABLE XI.3—contd.

1	2		9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Total	Urban	556	353	526	324	264	183	17	32
	Rural		290	209	363	229	281	127	14	19
	Urban		266	143	162	94	83	55	3	13
II. States in India beyond the state of enumeration	Total	Total	3,383	2,376	2,587	1,965	1,744	1,556	234	389
	Rural		1,888	1,300	1,518	1,183	1,111	1,403	141	222
	Urban		1,480	1,069	1,057	778	622	510	85	135
	Total	Rural	1,302	1,219	1,007	1,057	637	987	184	316
	Rural		812	824	665	800	465	792	115	191
	Urban		486	382	340	256	171	194	63	93
	Total	Urban	2,081	1,166	1,574	908	1,107	569	50	73
	Rural		1,076	476	853	383	645	251	26	31
	Urban		994	686	717	522	452	316	23	42
B. Countries in Asia beyond India (Including USSR)		Total	1,545	988	2,234	1,611	2,520	2,115	150	237
		Rural	1,161	789	1,810	1,366	1,882	1,671	137	228
		Urban	384	199	424	245	638	444	13	8
C. Countries in Europe (excluding USSR)		Total	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
		Rural	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Urban	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—

D. Countries in Africa	Total	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Rural	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Urban	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
E. Countries in Americas	Total	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	Rural	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Urban	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
F. Countries in Oceania	Total	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Rural	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Urban	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
G. Unclassifiable	Total	—	—	—	1	1	3	—	—
	Rural	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—
	Urban	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—

Note : In item 'A' and its sub-parts, place of last residence unclassifiable as rural or urban is included in TOTAL.

Out of total number of 116,923 migrants, 98,355 persons—49,153 males and 49,202 females have had their last residences elsewhere in India. This would mean that 84.12 per cent of the migrants to Sikkim are those who have had their last residences elsewhere in India. 30,498 males and 37,197 females reported their last residence within Sikkim but outside the place of enumeration. The reason for high proportion of female migrants in this category may be that quite a number of men marry girls from outside the place of their residence. Thus, the women go to live in the household of the husband which account for the disproportionately large number of female migrants. Out of the total migrants who have had their last residence within Sikkim but outside the place of enumeration, the period of stay in the place of enumeration was reported less than 1 year by 12.59 per cent, 1—4 years by 27.91 per cent, 5—9 years by 17.05 per cent, 10—19 years by 19.77 per cent, 20 years and above by 19.07 per cent, and 3.61 per cent of migrants did not state the period of residence in place of enumeration.

The number of persons migrated from other states in India to Sikkim is higher than the number of people migrated from other districts of the state. Out of the 30,660 persons from other states, 26,176 persons are from West Bengal, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. As already indicated, Darjeeling district of West Bengal has the common boundary with Sikkim state, and this accounts for the large number of migrants from that district. The highest percentage of migrants who have had their last residence in West Bengal can be found in the 1—4 years duration. This indicates that majority of the migrants came to Sikkim after merger of Sikkim with Indian Union in 1975.

18,569 persons were found to be living in Sikkim who have had their last residence as Countries beyond India. Of them 99.86 per cent reported their last residence as Countries in Asia beyond India (including U.S.S.R.). Nepal records the highest number with 15,929 persons as last residence of these migrants. As already indicated the nearness of the state to Nepal and Social and Cultural links appear to be the main reasons for the presence of such a large number of persons from that country in the state of Sikkim.

Reasons for Migration

For the first time in the Census, reasons for migration were obtained in 1981. Keeping operational constraints in view, the reasons for migration were broadly categorised as employment, education, marriage, consequent on family movement and other reasons. Reasons for migration have been elicited only with reference to movement from place of last residence.

Migrants to urban areas :—Table No. XI.4 presents the reasons for migration to urban areas.

TABLE NO. XI.4

Percentage Distribution of Migrants to Urban Areas by Reasons of Migration

Migration Status	Place of Last residence Urban/ Rural	Proportion of migrants by reasons for migration											
		Total migrants		Employment		Education		Family moved		Marriage		Others	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
A Total Migrants	T	100.00	100.00	52.02	10.33	3.84	3.06	18.27	42.50	0.32	19.15	25.55	14.96
B Migrants from within the state	R	100.00	100.00	53.10	13.39	6.77	4.97	19.69	36.78	0.23	30.35	20.21	14.51
	U	100.00	100.00	46.54	10.37	2.90	2.50	23.24	49.61	0.49	23.09	26.83	14.43
C Migrants from other states and union territories	R	100.00	100.00	48.45	7.00	3.58	2.40	15.17	44.31	0.22	31.44	32.58	14.85
	U	100.00	100.00	56.55	10.79	3.72	2.83	19.06	43.48	0.40	30.93	20.27	11.97
D Migrants from other countries	T	100.00	100.00	52.59	7.85	0.78	1.26	16.65	42.74	0.37	24.15	29.61	24.00

It may be seen that the main reason for migration to urban areas is employment for males and marriage for females. More than 2 per cent (52.02%) males have migrated to urban areas due to the reason of employment. Whereas 29.15 per cent females have migrated to urban areas due to marriages. More or less the same pattern is observed for migrants moving in the same state.

As regards migrants from rural areas of other states and union territories to urban areas of Sikkim, majority of males (48.45%) have migrated due to the reason of employment and 31.44 percent of the females due to marriages. Migrants whose place of last residence is in urban areas and are migrating to other urban areas, proportion of male migrants due to employment is 56.55 per cent. Thus, it may be seen that more males from urban areas than rural areas migrate to urban areas. This is however, not true for migrants within the state where it can be seen that 53.10 per cent of males from rural areas migrate to urban areas as compared to 46.54 per cent from urban areas to urban areas.

Migrants to rural areas

Proportion of migrants, migrated to rural areas in Sikkim is presented in Table No. XI. 5.

TABLE NO. XI.5

Percentage Distribution of Migrants to Rural Areas by Reasons of Migration

Migration Status	Place of Last residence Urban Rural	Proportion of migrants by reasons for migration											
		Total migrants		Employment		Education		Family moved		Marriage		Others	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
A Total Migrants	T	100.00	100.00	33.32	3.90	3.37	1.19	35.67	30.25	1.77	52.10	25.87	12.56
B Migrants from within the state	R	100.00	100.00	23.58	2.48	4.13	1.04	46.32	25.69	2 43	59.81	23.54	10.98
	U	100.00	100.00	45 41	8.22	4.86	2.13	29.77	50.34	1.18	26.34	18.78	12 97
C Migrants from other states and Union Territories	R	100.00	100.00	46.43	4.55	3.41	1.77	22.71	32.70	1.00	49.05	26.45	11.93
	U	100 00	100.00	51.44	8.25	2.88	2.34	22 37	45.70	0.70	30.08	22.61	13.63
E Migrants from other countries	T	100.00	100.00	35 80	7.05	1.12	0.64	26.69	36.74	1.32	35.69	35.07	19.88

It can be seen from the table that employment is the main reason for migration to rural areas in the case of males and marriage in the case of females as is observed earlier in the case of migration to urban areas.

CHAPTER XI

SUMMARY

We may recapitulate here some of the salient features of the population of Sikkim as revealed by the 1981 census. On 26th April, 1975, Sikkim became the 22nd state of Indian Union. The formal merger took place on 16th May, 1975. Before that it was an independent kingdom under the monarch of Namgyal dynasty. The population of Sikkim state was 316,385 at the 1981 census, spread over an area of 7,096 square kilometres. Its population lives in 405 revenue blocks, 38 forest blocks, 4 special areas (monastery and tea estates) and 8 towns, mostly of small size, of the four districts of the state whose names are North, East, South and West.

Considering the percentage of the state's population to the national population, Sikkim ranks 28th from the top among all the states in India. To be very exact, the population of this state is only 0.05 per cent of the total population of India. In the matter of geographical size, its rank is 25th. The density of population is 45 as against 216 in India. There is large concentration of population in the East district, followed by South district. This is mainly because the land of these districts contains agricultural meadows and existence of some factories and the state capital is located in East district. Major part of North district is hilly and forested resulting very low density (6 persons per square kilometre).

The variation in population for the period from 1901—1981 comes to 436.12 per cent. The study can fairly be made for the period 1951—1981 as the data for earlier decades at district level are not available. The formation of districts between 1961 and 1971 is one of the reasons for non-comparison of data with the earlier decades at district level. There has been a rising trend in the variation of population from the decades 1951—1961, 1961—1971 and 1971—1981. There was a tremendous increase in variation of urban population.

There was a rising trend in sex ratio from 1901—1921, and afterwords, it has followed a continuous declining trend in

every census. The declining trend in sex ratio started from 1931 when a sex ratio of 967 is reported for the state and now in 1981 the state has recorded a sex ratio of 835 showing a total decline of 132 females for 1000 males during the last 50 years. At district level too, there has been a declining trend. In East district the decline in sex ratio is quite significant from 884 in 1961 to 791 in 1971. But again, in 1981 the sex ratio in this district has shown a marginal increase of only 6 females as compared to 1971 census. The sex ratio in urban areas has gained a rising trend in all the districts except South whereas in rural areas there is a declining trend in sex ratio in all the districts except East.

The percentage of literacy in our state is 34.05 as against 36.23 per cent for the whole country. Sikkim has made tremendous improvement in its position in the field of education during the last two decades. In Sikkim educational enterprise is almost nationalised. The state offers a common school system of uniform quality to all children irrespective of caste, creed, location and sex. About 98 per cent of the educational institutions are managed and solely funded by the state Government which porvides universal free education including free supply of textbooks and midday meals to primary school children. The initiative undertaken by the Government will certainly improve the literacy rate of the state in the near future. Now the emphasis is required to be given on reducing the drop-out rate so that the opportunity granted by the Government is properly availed of to increase the literacy rate in the State.

The population of India is predominantly rural, it is much more so in the case of Sikkim state. In Sikkim every 84 out of 100 persons live in the rural areas and only 16 out of 100 persons are the dwellers of urban area. The most urbanised district of the state is East where 31.16 per cent of its population resides in urban areas. This is because of the rapid expansion of urban areas like Gangtok capital and business centres like Rangpo and Singtam. The West district with 2.26 per cent is the least urbanised district.

Out of the total population (excluding institutional household population) of 308,262 in the state, 19,570 are the speakers of languages included in schedule VIII of the constitution comprising 6.35 per cent, and 288,962 are the

speakers of other languages constituting 93.65 per cent of total household population. Nepali is the language of the majority (62.57 per cent), followed by Lepcha (7.26 per cent), Bhutia (6.99 per cent) and Limbu (5.81 per cent).

The Hindus are the largest religious community comprising 67.25 per cent of the total population in the state. The Buddhists are the second largest religious group with 28.71 per cent of the state's total population.

In Sikkim, the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes comprise 5.78 per cest and 23.27 per cent respectively of the state's total population. About 28.06 per cent among scheduled caste population and 33.13 per cent among scheduled tribes are literates. The proportion of scheduled castes is higher by 2.26 per cent in urban areas than in rural areas. The trend is reversed in the case of scheduled tribes. The proportion of scheduled tribes in urban areas is lower by more than 2 percentage points as compared to rural areas. The highest proportion (58.60 per cent) of scheduled tribes and scheduled castes taken together is observed in North district which is followed by East district (29.03 per cent) and the lowest proportion (23.06 per cent) is observed in South District.

As per 1981 census, 46.60 per cent of the total population of this state constitutes main workers, 1.70 per cent marginal workers and the remaining 51.70 per cent non-workers. Of the main-workers, 97,508 are males and 49,928 females constituting 56.55 per cent of male and 34.69 per cent of female population. There is a wide gap between male workers and female workers. This however, does not mean that most of our women do not make any contribution to the economy. We know that there are many women, particularly in the rural areas, who work in the fields or participate in the household industries in addition to their household work. Majority of workers are engaged in agriculture and about 18 per cent in other services.

Migration, like fertility and mortality, holds a prominent place in the study of population of any area. The movement of population is an instrument of cultural exchange and social integration. According to 1981 Census, 36.90 per cent of the total population in Sikkim is migrant as per place of birth and 36.96 per cent according to place of last residence.

The tempo of development acceletrates when the proper planning is envisaged and the schemes included under it are implemented accordingly. Census plays a key role by providing massive data for our socio-economic planning. Apart from the usual census volumes, it is a census tradition to bring out small volume giving salient features of the demographic conditions in the state for the benefit of common readers. It is hoped that in view of its brevity and simplicity of language, The present publication shall be of interest to the students and average readers alike who have some interest in the population dynamics and its socio-economics and demographic characteristics pertaining to the state of Sikkim, and its comparison with India and other states.

89-M/S313RGI—300—7-8-90—GIPS.